# NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MH/DD/SAS

# NEW & MODIFIED SERVICE STANDARDS\*

(This package includes all of the new MH/DD/SAS service definitions (including child mental health and substance abuse). This package also contains several current service definitions that have been modified. These service definitions are currently under review by the Division of Medical Assistance and have not yet been approved for use.)\*

**Final Draft** 

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#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT – ADULTS**

#### **Service Definition and Required Components**

Community Support services consist of mental health and substance abuse rehabilitation services and supports necessary to assist the person in achieving and maintaining rehabilitative, sobriety and recovery goals. The service is designed to meet the mental health/substance abuse treatment, financial, social and other treatment support needs of the recipient. The service is also designed to assist the recipient in acquiring MH/SA recovery skills necessary to successfully address his or her educational, vocational, and housing needs. The service includes providing "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to enrolled consumers experiencing a crisis situation. The service activities of Community Support consist of a variety of interventions: identification and intervention to address barriers that impede the development of skills necessary for independent functioning in the community; development and revision of the recipient's Person Centered Plan (PCP); and oneon-one interventions with the community to develop interpersonal and community coping skills, including adaptation to home, school and work environments; therapeutic mentoring; symptom monitoring, monitoring medications and self management of symptoms. Community Support includes case management to arrange, link or integrate multiple services as well as assessment and reassessment of the recipient's need for services. Community Support workers also inform the recipient about benefits, community resources, and services; assist the recipient in accessing benefits and services; arrange for the recipient to receive benefits and services; and monitor the provision of services.

The Community Support worker must consult with identified providers, include their input into the service planning process, inform all involved stakeholders, and monitor the status of the recipient in relationship to the treatment goals. The organization assumes the roles of advocate, broker, coordinator, and monitor of the service delivery system on behalf of the recipient.

## **Provider Requirements**

Community Support services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MHDDSAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States

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and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

The Community Support provider organization is identified in the Person Centered Plan and is responsible for obtaining authorization from the LME for the PCP. Community Support providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, jails, homeless shelters, street locations, etc. (Note: For all services, federal Medicaid regulations will deny Medicaid payment for services delivered to inmates of public institutions or facilities with more than 16 beds that are classified as Institutions of Mental Diseases.)

Organizations that provide Community Support services must provide "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to consumers who are receiving community support services.

## **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may deliver Community Support. Qualified Professionals (QP)are responsible for developing, and coordinating the Person Centered Plan (PCP). Associate Professionals (AP) and paraprofessionals may deliver Community Support services to perform daily case management functions and assist the consumer to develop critical daily living and coping skills.

All paraprofessionals providing community support must be supervised by a qualified professional. Supervision must be provided according to supervision requirements specified in 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 and according to licensure or certification requirements of the appropriate discipline.

Paraprofessional level-providers who meet the requirements specified for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may deliver Community Support services within the requirements of the staff definition specific in the above role. When a paraprofessional provides Community Support services, a QP is responsible for overseeing the development of the consumer's person centered plan.

A Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS) and Certified Clinical Addiction Specialist (CCAS) may deliver Community Support.

The following chart sets forth the activities that can be performed by a QP (Masters Level), CCS, CCAS, AP and paraprofessional. These activities reflect the appropriate scope of practice for these individuals.

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All staff providing community support services to adults must have a minimum of one year documented experience with this population or completion of a minimum of six hours regarding community support skill building activities within the first 90 days of employment.

## **Service Type/Setting**

Community Support is a direct and indirect periodic service where the Community Support worker provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. Community Support services may be provided to an individual or a group of individuals.

Community Support services are primarily provided in a range of community settings such as recipient's home, school, homeless shelters, libraries, etc. Community Support services can also be billed for individuals living in independent living or supervised living (low or moderate). Community Support also includes telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with persons who assist the recipient in meeting his/her rehabilitation goals. Community Support activities include person-centered planning meetings and meetings for treatment/service plan development.

This service is billable to Medicaid.

## **Program Requirements**

All individuals receiving Community Support must receive a minimum of two (2) contacts per month with (1) one contact occurring face-to-face with the recipient. Sixty per cent (60%) or more of Community Support services which are delivered must be performed face-to-face with recipients and Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of staff time must be spent working outside of the agency's facility, with or on behalf of consumers. The portion of services is measured in total units over that which were

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provided during the timeframes set forth in the plan. These contact benchmarks are measured on an annual basis. Units are billed in fifteen (15) minute increments. Community Support services may be provided to groups of individuals.

Caseload size for a Community Support worker may not exceed 1:30 (one Community Support worker per thirty [30] clients). When Community Support services are provided in a group, groups may not exceed eight (8) individuals.

## **Utilization Management**

Referral and authorization by Local Management Entity is required. The amount, duration, and frequency of services must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan, and authorized on or before the day services are to be provided. Initial authorization for services would not exceed a three (3) month period . A maximum of thirty-two (32) units of Community Support services can be provided in a 24-hour period. No more than 640 units of services can be provided to an individual in a three (3) month period.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There are two (2) identified needs in the appropriate documented life domains, AND

B There is an Axis I or II diagnosis present, other than a sole diagnosis of Developmental Disability

## AND/OR

C AMH Level of Care Criteria <u>or A</u>/ASAM (American Society for Addiction Medicine)

#### AND

- D The recipient is experiencing difficulties in at least one of the following areas:
  - 1. Is at risk for institutionalization, or hospitalization or is placed outside the natural living environment.
  - 2. Is receiving or needs crisis intervention services
  - 3. Has unmet identified needs from multiple agencies.
  - 4. Needs advocacy and service coordination to direct service provisions from multiple agencies.
  - 5. DSS has substantiated abuse, neglect, or has established dependency.
  - 6. Presenting with intense, verbal and limited physical aggression due to symptoms associated with diagnosis, which is sufficient to create functional problems in the home, community, school, job, etc.
  - 7. Functional problems which may result in the recipient's inability to access clinic-based services in a timely or helpful manner
  - 8.-Is in active recovery from substance abuse/dependency and is in need of continuing relapse prevention support.

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## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- B. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C. Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) need to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- D. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- E. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 90 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record.

## **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery.
- B. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- C. Recipient/family no longer wishes to receive Community Support services.
- D. Recipient has achieved one (1) year of abstinence from substances.

\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

#### **Expected Outcomes**

This service includes interventions that address the functional problems associated with complex and/or complicated conditions of the identified population. These interventions are strength-based and focused on promoting recovery, symptom stability, increased coping skills and achievement of the highest level of functioning in the community. The focus of the interventions include: minimizing the negative effects of psychiatric symptoms or substance dependence which interfere with the recipient's daily living, financial management and personal development; developing

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strategies and supportive interventions for avoiding out-of-home placements for adults; supporting ongoing treatment; assisting recipients to increase social support skills that ameliorate life stresses resulting from the recipient's disability and coordinating rehabilitation services in the PCP.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note that includes the purpose of contact, describes the provider's interventions, includes the time spent performing the interventions and effectiveness of the intervention.

#### **Service Exclusions**

An individual can receive Community Support services from only one provider organization at a time.

For persons residing in higher-level residential programs (e.g. Group Living Moderate and High), Community Support services are limited to individuals transitioning from or to these residential programs. Community Support and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility. Group Community Support cannot be billed on the same day as psychosocial rehabilitation.

Community Support cannot be provided during the same authorization period with the following services: Partial Hospitalization (PH), Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment or Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP).

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## COMMUNITY SUPPORT (MH/SA) – CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Community Support services are services and supports necessary to assist the youth 17 years old or younger (20 years old or younger for youths enrolled in Medicaid) and their caregivers in achieving and maintaining developmental, Community rehabilitative and recovery goals. Support services psychoeducational and supportive in nature and intended to meet the mental health or substance abuse needs of children and adolescents with significant functional deficits, or who because of negative environmental, medical or biological factors, are at risk of developing or increasing the magnitude of such functional deficits. Included among this latter group are those at risk for significant developmental delays, atypical development, substance abuse, or serious emotional disturbance (SED) which could result in an inability to live successfully in the community without services and guidance.

The service activities of Community Support consist of a variety of interventions: education and training of caregivers and others who have a legitimate role in addressing the needs identified in the service plan as well as preventive; developmental, and therapeutic interventions designed for direct individual activities; assist with skill enhancement or acquisition, and support ongoing treatment and functional gains; development of the consumer's Person Center Plan (PCP), and one-on-one interventions with the consumer to develop interpersonal and community relational skills, including adaptation to home, school, work and other natural environments; therapeutic mentoring; and symptom monitoring and self management of symptoms. The service includes providing "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to consumers experiencing a crisis situation.

#### **Provider Requirements**

Community Support services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MHDDSAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

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Community Support providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, detention centers and jails (state funds only), homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

Organizations that provide Community Support services must provide 24/7/365 crisis response to consumers and their families who are receiving community support services.

## **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104, or the N.C. Infant-Toddler Program Guidance for Personnel Certification (APSM 120-1) may deliver Community Support within the requirements of the staff definition specified in the above rule. Supervision is provided according to supervision requirements specified in 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 and according to licensure or certification requirements of the appropriate discipline.

Paraprofessional level-Providers who meet the requirements specified for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 or the N.C. Infant-Toddler Program Guidance for Personnel Certification (as specified in APSM 120-1) may deliver Community Support services within the requirements of the staff definition specific in the above role. When a paraprofessional provides Community Support services they must be under the supervision of a QP. Supervision of Paraprofessionals is also to be carried out according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104.

The following chart sets forth the activities that can be performed by a QP, CCS, CCAS, AP, and paraprofessional, These activities reflect the appropriate scope of practice for these individuals.

Qualified Professional, CCS, CCAS	AP, Paraprofessional
<ul> <li>Coordination and Oversight of Initial and Ongoing Assessment Activities</li> <li>Initial Development and Ongoing Revision of PCP</li> <li>Monitoring of Implementation of PCP</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Various Skill Building Activities</li> <li>Daily and Community Living Skills</li> <li>Socialization Skills</li> <li>Adaptation Skills</li> <li>Symptom Management Skills</li> <li>Wellness Education</li> <li>Education substance abuse</li> <li>Behavior and anger management techniques</li> </ul>

All staff providing community support services to children and families must have a minimum of one year documented experience with this population or completion of a

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minimum of six hours regarding community support skill building activities within the first 90 days of employment.

## Service Type/Setting

Community Support is a direct and indirect periodic service where the Community Support worker provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. Community Support services may be provided to an individual or a group of individuals.

For persons residing in higher-level residential programs (e.g. PRTF, Residential Levels II-IV), Community Support services are limited to individuals transitioning from or to these residential programs. Community Support and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility.

Community Support also includes telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with persons who assist the recipient in meeting his/her rehabilitation goals. Community Support activities include person-centered planning meetings and meetings for treatment/service plan development.

This service is billable to Medicaid.

## **Program Requirements**

All youth receiving Community Support must receive a minimum of two (2) contacts per month with one (1) contact occurring face-to-face with the recipient.

Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of Community Support services which are delivered must be performed face-to-face with recipients and Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of staff time must be spent working outside of the agency's facility, with or on behalf of consumers. The portion of services will be measured in total units over that were provided during the timeframes set forth in the plan. These contact benchmarks are measured on an annual basis. Units will be billed in fifteen (15) minute increments. Community Support services may also be provided to groups of individuals.

Caseload size for a Community Support worker may not exceed 1:30 (One Community Support worker per thirty [30] clients). When Community Support services are provided in a group, groups may not exceed eight (8) individuals.

## **Utilization Management**

Referral and authorization by Local Management Entity is required. The amount, duration and frequency of the services must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan, and authorized prior to or on the day services are to be provided. Initial authorization for services would not exceed a three (3) month period. A **FINAL DRAFT** 

maximum of thirty-two (32) units of Community Support services can be provided in a 24-hour period unless specific authorization for exceeding this limit is approved. No more than 640 units of Community Support services can be provided to an individual in a three (3) month period.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There are two (2) identified needs in the appropriate documented life domains, AND

B There is an Axis I or II diagnosis present, other than a diagnosis of primary Developmental Disability.

#### AND/OR

C AMH Level of Care Criteria or NC Modified A/ASAM (American Society for Addiction Medicine)

#### AND

- D The recipient is experiencing difficulties in at least one of the following areas:
  - 1. Is at risk for institutionalization, or hospitalization or is placed outside the natural living environment.
  - 2. Is receiving or needs crisis intervention services or intensive in home services.
  - 3. Has unmet identified needs from multiple agencies.
  - 4. Needs advocacy and service coordination to direct service provisions from multiple agencies.
  - 5. DSS has substantiated abuse, neglect, or has established dependency.
  - 6. Presenting with intense, verbal and limited physical aggression due to symptoms associated with diagnosis, which aggression is sufficient to create functional problems in the home, community, school, job, etc.
  - 7. Functional problems which may result in the recipient's inability to access clinic-based services in a timely or helpful manner.
  - 8. Is in active recovery from substance abuse/dependency and is in need of continuing relapse prevention support.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- B Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.

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- C Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) need to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- D Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- E Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

#### AND

Utilization review must be conducted at a minimum of 90 days and is so documented in the Person-Centered Plan and service record.

## **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- A Recipient has achieved goals and is no longer eligible for Community Support services.
- B Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- C Recipient/family no longer wants Community Support services.
- D Recipient has achieved one (1) year of abstinence from substances.

\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

#### **Expected Outcomes**

This service includes interventions that address the functional problems associated with complex and/or complicated conditions of the identified population. These interventions are strength-based and focused on promoting symptom stability, increased coping skills and achievement of the highest level of functioning in the community. For substance abusers, the expected outcomes include the achievement of abstinence from substances. The focus of the interventions include: minimizing the negative effects of psychiatric and substance abuse symptoms which interfere with the recipient's daily living, improving and sustaining developmentally appropriate functioning, financial management and personal development; developing strategies and supportive interventions for avoiding out-of-home placements; supporting ongoing treatment assisting recipients to increase social support skills that ameliorate life stresses resulting from the recipient's disability and coordinating rehabilitation services in the Person Centered Plan.

#### **Documentation Requirements**

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Minimum standard is a daily full service note that includes the purpose of contact, describes the provider's interventions; the time spent performing the intervention.

Service Exclusions

Community Support and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two consecutive calendar weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility. No more than 32 units (within a 90 day period) of community support can be provided to children and families who are transitioning to or from intensive inhome services or Multi-systemic Therapy.

Community Support cannot be provided during the same authorization period with the following services: Day Treatment (DT) or Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)

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## MOBILE CRISIS MANAGEMENT (MH/SA)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Mobile Crisis Management involves all support, services and treatments necessary to provide integrated crisis response, crisis stabilization interventions and crisis prevention activities. Mobile Crisis Management services are available at all times, 24/7/365. Crisis response provides an immediate evaluation, triage and access to acute MH/DD/SA services, treatment and supports, to effect symptom reduction, harm reduction, and/or to safely transition persons in acute crises to appropriate crisis stabilization and detoxification supports/services. These services include immediate telephonic response to assess the crisis and determine the risk, mental status, medical stability and appropriate response.

Mobile Crisis Management also includes crisis prevention and supports which are designed to reduce the incidence of recurring crises. These supports and services should be specified in a recipient's Crisis Plan, which is a component of all Person Centered Plans.

#### **Provider Requirements**

Mobile Crisis Management services must be delivered by a team of practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MHDDSAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina

#### Staffing Requirements

Mobile Crisis Management services must be provided by a team of individuals that includes a Qualified Professional according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 and must be either a nurse, clinical social worker or psychologist as defined in this administrative code. One of the team members must be a Certified Clinical Addictions Specialist **FINAL DRAFT** 

(CCAS), Certified clinical supervisor (CCS) or a certified substance abuse counselor (CSAC). Each organization providing crisis management must have 24/7/365 access to a board certified or eligible psychiatrist. The psychiatrist <u>must</u> be available for face to face or phone consultation to crisis staff. A QP or AP with experience in Developmental Disabilities must be available to the team as well. Paraprofessionals with competency in crisis management may also be a member of the crisis management team. Paraprofessionals with competency in crisis management who meet the requirements in 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may be members of a team when supervised by the Qualified Professional. A supervising professional must be available for consultation when a paraprofessional is providing services. A Substance Abuse Counselor Intern may also deliver Crisis Management support under supervision.

All staff providing crisis management services must demonstrate competencies in crisis response and crisis prevention. At a minimum, these staff must have:

- A minimum of one year's experience in providing crisis management services in the following settings: assertive outreach, assertive community treatment, emergency department, or other service providing 24/7 response in emergent or urgent situations. OR
- Twenty hours of training in appropriate crisis intervention strategies within the first 90 days of employment.

Professional staff must have appropriate licenses, certification, training and experience and non-licensed staff must have appropriate training and experience.

## Service Type/Setting

Mobile Crisis Management is a direct and periodic service that is available at all times, 24/7/365. It is a 'second level' service, in that other services should be billed before Crisis Management, as appropriate and if there is a choice. For example, if the recipient's outpatient clinician stabilized his/her crisis, the Outpatient billing code should be used, not crisis management. If a community support worker responds and stabilizes his/her crisis, the Community Support billing code should be used. This service is Medicaid billable.

Mobile Crisis Management may be provided in any location. Teams providing this service must provide at least 80% of their units on a face-to-face basis for crisis services provided to individuals who receive this service. This contact benchmark is measured on an annual basis. Units will be billed in fifteen (15) minute increments. If a face to face assessment is required, this assessment must be delivered in the least restrictive environment and provided in or as close as possible to a person's home, in the individual's natural setting, school, work, local emergency room, etc. This response must be mobile. The result of this assessment should identify the appropriate crisis stabilization intervention.

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## **Program Requirements**

Mobile Crisis Management services should be delivered in the least restrictive environment and provided in or as close as possible to a person's home.

Mobile Crisis Management services must be capable of addressing all psychiatric, substance abuse and developmental disability crises for all ages to help restore (at a minimum) an individual to their previous level of functioning.

Mobile Crisis Management services may be delivered by one (1) or more individual practitioners on the team.

For recipients new to the public system, Mobile Crisis Management must develop a Crisis Plan before discharge. This Crisis Plan should be provided to the individual, caregivers (if appropriate) and any agencies which may provide ongoing treatment and supports after the crisis has been stabilized. For recipients who are already receiving services, Mobile Crisis Management should recommend revisions to existing crisis plan components in Person Centered Plans, as appropriate.

## **Utilization Management**

There is no prior authorization for the first 32 units of crisis services per episode. For individuals who are not enrolled with a Local Management Entity (LME), there is no prior authorization required. For individuals enrolled with the LME the crisis management provider must contact the LME to determine if the individual is enrolled with a provider that should and can provide or be involved with the response. Mobile Crisis Management should be used to divert individuals from inpatient psychiatric and detoxification services. These services are not used as "step down" services from inpatient hospitalization.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

- A. The person and/or family are experiencing an acute, immediate crisis as determined by a crisis rating scale specified by DMH/DD/SAS. AND
- B. The person and/or family has insufficient or severely limited resources or skills necessary to cope with the immediate crisis OR
- C. The person and/or family members evidences impairment of judgment and/or impulse control and/or cognitive/perceptual disabilities OR
- D. The person is intoxicated or in withdrawal and in need of substance abuse treatment and unable to access services without immediate assistance

Priority should be given to individuals with a history of multiple crisis episodes and/or who are at substantial risk of future crises.

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## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The recipient's crisis has not been resolved or their crisis situation has not been stabilized, which may include placement in a facility-based crisis unit or other appropriate residential placement.

## **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's crisis has been stabilized and his/her need for ongoing treatment/supports has been assessed. If the recipient has continuing treatment/support needs, a linkage to ongoing treatment or supports has been made.

## **Expected Outcomes**

This service includes a broad array of crisis prevention and intervention strategies which assist the recipient in managing, stabilizing or minimizing clinical crisis or situations. This service is designed to rapidly assess crisis situations and a recipient's clinical condition, to triage the severity of the crisis, and to provide immediate, focused crisis intervention services which are mobilized based on the type and severity of crisis.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a service note which includes a description of staff intervention; the time spent performing the intervention, and the outcome of the intervention.

#### **Service Exclusions**

Assertive Community Treatment, Intensive In-Home Services, Multisystemic Therapy, and Medical Community Substance Abuse (SA) Residential Treatment, Non-Medical Community SA Residential Treatment, Detoxification Services, Inpatient SA Treatment except for the day of admission. Mobile Crisis Management services may be provided to an individual who receives inpatient psychiatric services on the same day of service.

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## DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT (MH/SA)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

A Diagnostic/Assessment is an intensive clinical and functional evaluation of a consumer's mental health or substance abuse condition that results in the issuance of a Diagnostic Assessment report with a recommendation regarding whether the consumer meets target population criteria, and includes recommendations for Enhanced Benefit service delivery that provides the basis for the development of a Person Centered Plan (PCP). For substance abuse focused Diagnostic/Assessment, the designated Diagnostic Tool specified by the Division of (e.g., SUDDS IV, ASI, SASSI) for specific SA target populations (i.e. Work First, DWI, etc.) must be used . In addition, any elements included in this service definition that are not covered by the tool must be completed.

The Diagnostic/Assessment must include the following elements:

- A. A chronological behavioral health history (includes both mental health and substance abuse) of the recipient's symptoms, treatment, treatment response and attitudes about treatment over time, emphasizing factors that have contributed to or inhibited previous recovery efforts;
- B. Biological, psychological, familial, social, developmental and environmental dimensions and identified strengths and weaknesses in each area;
- C. A description of the presenting problems, including source of distress, precipitating events, associated problems or symptoms and recent progressions;
- D. A strengths/problem summary which addresses risk of harm, functional status, co-morbidity, recovery environment, and treatment and recovery history;
- E. Diagnoses on all five (5) axes of DSM-IV;
- F. Evidence of an interdisciplinary team progress note that documents the team's review and discussion of the assessment;
- G. A recommendation regarding target population eligibility; and

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H. Evidence of recipient participation including families or when applicable guardians or other caregivers.

## **Provider Requirements**

Diagnostic/Assessments must be conducted by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity (LME) or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina. Diagnostic/Assessment services are not provided directly by the LME.

Individual Medicaid-qualified Practitioners may conduct Diagnostic Assessments in accordance with these requirements for individuals receiving only Basic Benefit services, except that these practitioners are not subject to the requirement that they be employed by an organization meeting DMH/DD/SAS standards and the requirement that the Diagnostic Assessment be conducted by a team.

## **Staffing Requirements**

The Diagnostic/Assessment team must include at least two (2) Qualified Professionals (QP), according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104, both of whom are licensed or certified clinicians; one of the team members must be a qualified practitioner whose professional licensure or certification authorizes the practitioner to diagnose mental illnesses and/or addictive disorders. A psychiatrist shall review all psychiatric and medical functional areas in a consumer's Diagnostic/Assessment. For substance abuse focused Diagnostic/Assessment the team must include a CCS or CCAS.

## Service Type/Setting

Diagnostic/Assessment is a direct periodic service which can be provided in any location. This service is Medicaid billable.

## **Program Requirements**

An initial Diagnostic/Assessment shall be performed by a Diagnostic/Assessment team for each recipient being considered for receipt of services in the MH/DD/SA Enhanced Benefit package.

# **Utilization Management**

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A consumer may receive up to two units of Diagnostic Assessments per year. The billing unit is per assessment. For individuals eligible for Basic and Enhanced Benefit services, referral by Local Management Entity for Diagnostic/Assessment is required. For individuals eligible for Basic Benefit services, no referral is required if service is provided by a Individual Medicaid –qualified Practitioner. Additional units require prior authorization from the LME.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There is a known or suspected mental health or substance abuse diagnosis OR

B Initial screening/triage information indicates a need for additional mental health/substance abuse treatment

#### AND

C Recipient meets the Division's eligibility criteria for the Basic or Enhanced Benefit package.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

NA

## **Discharge Criteria**

NA

## **Expected Outcomes**

A Diagnostic/Assessment determines whether the consumer is appropriate for and can benefit from MH/DD/SA services based upon the consumer's diagnosis, presenting problems, and treatment/recovery goals. It also evaluates the consumer's level of readiness and motivation to engage in treatment. Results from a Diagnostic/Assessment include an interpretation of the assessment information, appropriate case formulation and the development of person centered plan. For substance abusers, a Diagnostic/Assessment recommends a level of placement using NC Modified A/ASAM criteria.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a note in the consumer's record which includes the purpose of the session and the results of the evaluation, as well as a Diagnostic/Assessment Report at the conclusion of each completed, full assessment.

#### Service Exclusions/Limitations

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The billing unit for Diagnostic/Assessment is per assessment. A consumer may receive up to 2 Diagnostic/Assessments per year. Any additional Diagnostic/Assessment within a one year period must be prior authorized by the LME. Diagnostic/Assessment shall not be billed on the same day as Assertive Community Treatment, Intensive In-Home, Multisystemic Therapy, or Community Support Team. If psychological testing or specialized assessments are indicated, they are billed separately using 92506, 96100, 96105, 96110, 96111, 96115, 96117, 97001, 97002, 97003, or 97004 CPT codes.

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#### INTENSIVE IN-HOME SERVICES

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

This is a time limited intensive family preservation intervention intended to stabilize the living arrangement, promote reunification or prevent the utilization of out of home therapeutic resources (i.e. psychiatric hospital, therapeutic foster care, residential treatment facility) for the identified youth 17 years old or younger (20 or younger for consumers who are enrolled in Medicaid). These services are delivered primarily to children in their family's home with a family focus to:

- 1. Diffuse the current crisis, evaluate its nature and intervene to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence;
- 2. Ensure the linkage to needed community services and resources;
- 3. Provide self help and living skills training for youth;
- 4. Provide parenting skills training to help the family build skills for coping with the youth's disorder;
- 5. Monitor and manage the presenting psychiatric and addiction symptoms; and
- 6. Work with caregivers in the implementation of home-based behavioral supports. Services may include crisis management, intensive case management, individual and/or family therapy, substance abuse intervention, skills training, and other rehabilitative supports to prevent the need for a out of home, more restrictive services.

This service is a team approach designed to address the identified needs of children and adolescents who are transitioning from out of home placements or are at risk of out of home placement and need intensive interventions to remain stable in the community. This population has access to a variety of interventions twenty four (24) hours a day, 7 days per week by staff that will maintain contact and intervene as one organizational unit.

Team services are individually designed for each family, in full partnership with the family, to minimize intrusion and maximize independence. Services are generally more intensive at the beginning of treatment and decrease over time as the youth and family's coping skills develop.

This team approach is structured face—to—face therapeutic interventions to provide support and guidance in all areas of functional domains: adaptive, communication, psychosocial, problem solving, behavior management, etc. This service is not delivered in a group setting.

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#### **Provider Requirements**

Intensive In-Home services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial. clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

Intensive In-Home providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, detention centers and jails (state funds only), homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

Organizations that provide Intensive In-Home services must provide "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to consumers who are receiving this service.

## Staffing Requirements

This service model includes both a Qualified Professional and a minimum of two (2) staff who are Associate Professional and/or a Paraprofessional. The Qualified Professional is the team leader who is responsible for coordinating the initial assessment and developing the youth's Person Centered Plan (PCP). The service model requires that in-home staff provide 24hour coverage, 7 days per week. The QP is also responsible for providing or coordinating (with another QP) treatment for the youth or other family members. All treatment must be directed toward the eligible recipient of in-home services. The Paraprofessional staff must work under close supervision of the team leader and provide support services to the youth and family. Team to family ratio shall not exceed one to eight (1 to 8) for each three-For Intensive In-Home services focused on substance abuse intervention the team must include a CCS, CCAS, or CSAC.

Persons who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may deliver Intensive In Home Services within the requirements of the staff definition specified in the above rule. Supervision is provided according to supervision requirements specified in 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 and according to licensure and certification requirements of the appropriate discipline.

Paraprofessional level-Providers who meet the requirements specified for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may deliver. Intensive In Home Services within the requirements of the staff definition specific in the above When a paraprofessional provides Intensive In Home Services, a QP is responsible for overseeing the development of the consumer's person centered FINAL DRAFT

plan. When a paraprofessional provides Intensive In Home Services they must be under the supervision of a QP. Supervision of Paraprofessionals is also to be carried out according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104.

All staff providing Intensive In Home services to children and families must have a minimum of one year documented experience with this population or completion of a minimum of six hours regarding crisis management and skill building activities within the first 90 days of employment.

## **Service Type/Setting**

Intensive In-Home services are direct and indirect periodic services where the team provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. Intensive In-Home services are primarily provided in a range of community settings such as recipient's home, school, homeless shelters, libraries, etc. Intensive In-Home services also include telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with persons who assist the recipient in meeting their goals specified in their Person Centered Plan. This service is billable to Medicaid.

## **Clinical Requirements**

For Intensive In-Home recipients, a minimum of twelve (12) contacts must occur within the first month, with 50% of the units occurring face-to-face with the youth and/or family over the duration of the services during the authorization period. The remaining units may either be phone or collateral contacts.

Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of these non face-to-face units must be spent working outside of the agency's facility, with or on behalf of consumers. The portion of services will be measured in total units over those which were provided during the timeframes set forth in the plan. Units will be billed in fifteen (15) minute increments. For the second and third months of Intensive In-Home services, an average of six (6) contacts per month must occur. It is the expectation that service frequency will be titrated over the last two (2) months. For organizations providing this service these contact benchmarks will be measured on an annual basis.

## **Utilization Management**

Referral and Authorization by Local Management Entity is required. The amount, duration and frequency of the service must be included in an individual's Person-Centered Plan. Initial authorization for services would not exceed a three (3) month period. A maximum of thirty-two (32) units of intensive in home services can be provided in a twenty-four (24) hour period. No more than 360 units of services can be provided to an individual in a three (3) month period unless specific authorization for exceeding this limit is approved.

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#### **Entrance Criteria**

A recipient is eligible for this service when:

A. There is an Axis I or II diagnosis present, other than a sole diagnosis of Developmental Disability

## AND,

B. Treatment in a less intensive service (e.g. community support) was attempted or evaluated during the assessment but was found to be inappropriate or not effective:

#### AND,

C. The youth and/or family have insufficient or severely limited resources or skills necessary to cope with an immediate crisis.

#### AND

D. The youth and/or family issues are unmanageable in school based or behavioral program settings and require intensive coordinated clinical and positive behavioral interventions;

#### AND

E. The youth is at risk of out of home placement or is currently in an out of home placement and reunification is imminent.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the youth's service plan or the youth continues to be at risk for out-of-home placement:

A. Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.

#### AND

B. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.

#### AND

C. Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.

## OR

D. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

## OR

E. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

## **Utilization Management**

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Utilization Review must be conducted every three (3) months and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record.

## Discharge Criteria

Service recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- A Recipient has achieved goals; discharge to a lower level of care is indicated, or recipient has entered a Substance Abuse Intensive Out-Patient Program.
- B The youth and families/caregivers have skills and resources needed to step down to a less intensive service;
- C There is a significant reduction in the youth's problem behavior and/or increase in pro-social behaviors;
- D The youth's or parent/guardian requests discharge (and is not imminently dangerous to self or others);
- E An adequate continuing care plan has been established.
- F The youth requires a higher level of care (i.e. inpatient hospitalization or PRTF).

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note that includes the purpose of contact, describes the provider's interventions, the time spent performing the intervention and the effectiveness of interventions.

#### Service Exclusions

An individual can receive Intensive In-Home services from only one (1) provider organization at a time.

Intensive In-Home can be billed for individuals receiving Community Support or living in residential facilities for a limited period of time for the purpose of ensuring successful transition from the residential setting. No more than 32 units (within a 90 day period) of community support can be provided to children and families who are transitioning to or from intensive in-home services. Multisystemic Therapy, Day Treatment, Hourly Respite, individual, group or family therapy cannot be billed while an individual is receiving Intensive In-Home Services. Community Support Services may be billed for an individual receiving Intensive In Home Services for a two-week transition period to ensure successful transition to or from Intensive In-home services to Community Support. Intensive In-Home services cannot be billed when the individual is receiving services in a structured SA treatment program.

Intensive In-Home and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two (2) consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility.

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## MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY (MST)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

MST is a program designed to enhance the skills of youth generally between the ages 7-17 and their families who have anti-social, aggressive/violent behaviors, are at risk of out-of-home placement due to delinquency; are adjudicated youth returning from out-of-home placement; are chronic or violent juvenile offenders, and/or are youth with serious emotional disturbances involved in the juvenile justice system. MST provides an intensive model of treatment based on empirical data and evidence-based interventions that target specific behaviors with individualized behavioral interventions. The purpose of this program is to keep youth in the home by delivering an intensive therapy to the family within the home. Services are provided through a team approach to youth and their families. Services include: an initial assessment to identify the focus of the MST intervention, individual therapeutic interventions with the youth and family, peer intervention, case management, crisis stabilization, and respite. Specialized therapeutic and rehabilitative interventions are available to address special areas such as substance abuse, sexual abuse, sex offending, and domestic violence. Services are available in-home, at school and in other community settings. The duration of MST intervention is three (3) to five (5) months. MST involves families and other systems such as the school, probation officers, extended families and community connections.

This service is a team approach designed to address the identified needs of children and adolescents with significant behavioral problems and who are transitioning from out of home placements or are at risk of out of home placement and need intensive interventions to remain stable in the community. This population has access to a variety of interventions twenty four (24/7) hours a day by staff that will maintain contact and intervene as one organizational unit.

This team approach is structured face—to—face therapeutic interventions to provide support and guidance in all areas of functional domains: adaptive, communication, psychosocial, problem solving, behavior management, etc. The service promotes the family's capacity to monitor and manage the youth's behavior.

## **Provider Requirements**

Multisystemic therapy services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local **FINAL DRAFT** 

Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

Multisystemic therapy providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, detention centers and jails (state funds only), homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

Organizations that provide Multisystemic Therapy must provide "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to consumers who are receiving this service

## **Staffing Requirements**

This service model includes at a minimum a master's level Qualified Professional who is the team supervisor and three (3) Qualified Professional staff who provide available 24-hour coverage, 7 days per week. Staff are required to participate in MST introductory training and quarterly training on topics directly related to the needs of MST youth and their family on an ongoing basis. All staff on the MST team shall receive a minimum of one (1) hour of group supervision and one (1) hour of telephone consultation per week. MST team to family ratio shall not exceed one to five (1:5) for each four (4) person team.

## Service Type/Setting

MST is a direct and indirect periodic service where the MST worker provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. MST services are primarily provided in a range of community settings such as recipient's home, school, homeless shelters, libraries, etc. MST also includes telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with persons who assist the recipient in meeting their goals specified in their Person Centered Plan. This service is billable to Medicaid.

## Clinical Requirements

For registered recipients, a minimum of twelve (12) contacts must occur within the first month, with 50% of the contacts occurring face-to-face with the youth and/or family. The remaining units may either be phone or collateral contacts. Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of staff time must be spent working outside of the agency's facility, with or on behalf of consumers. The portion of services will be measured in total units over those which were provided during the timeframes set forth in the plan. For the second and third months of MST an average of six (6) contacts per month must occur. It is the expectation that service frequency will be titrated over the last two (2) months. For a provider organization provider MST, these contact

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benchmarks are measured on an annual basis. Units will be billed in fifteen (15) minute increments.

## **Utilization Management**

Referral and Authorization by Local Management Entity is required. The amount, duration, and frequency of the service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization for services must not exceed a three (3) month period. A maximum of thirty-two (32) units of MST services can be provided in a twenty-four (24) hour period. No more than 480 units of services can be provided to an individual in a three (3) month period unless specific authorization for exceeding this limit is approved. MST services must be reviewed for continued stay every ninety (90) days and documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

A There is an Axis I or II diagnosis present, other than a sole diagnosis of Developmental Disability.

#### <u>AND</u>

B The youth should be between the ages of 7-17;

#### AND

C The youth displays willing misconduct behaviors (e.g. theft, property destruction, assault, truancy; as well as substance use/abuse or juvenile sex offense, when in conjunction with other delinquent behaviors);

#### AND

D The youth is at imminent risk of out-of-home placement or is currently in out-of-home placement and reunification is imminent within 30 days of referral;

#### AND

E The youth has a caregiver that is willing to assume long term parenting role and caregiver who is willing to participate with service providers for the duration of the treatment.

# **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the youth's service plan or the youth continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

A. Youth continues to exhibit willful misconduct behaviors;

#### AND

- B. There is a reasonable expectation that the youth will continue to make progress in reaching overarching goals identified in MST in the first four (4) weeks. OR
- C. Youth is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

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#### OR

D. Youth is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

## Discharge Criteria

Youth's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, or no longer benefits from this service. The decision should be based on one of the following:

- A Youth has achieved Seventy-Five Per Cent (75%) of the service plan goals, discharge to a lower level of care is indicated;
- B Youth is not making progress, or is regressing, and all realistic treatment options within this modality have been exhausted.
- C The youth/family requests discharge and is not imminently dangerous to self or others
- D The youth requires a higher level of care (i.e. inpatient hospitalization or PRTF).

\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note that includes the purpose of contact, describes the provider's interventions; the time spent performing the intervention and the effectiveness of the interventions.

#### Service Exclusions

An individual can receive MST services from only one provider organization at a time.

MST can be billed for individuals receiving Community Support or living in residential facilities for a limited period of time to ensure successful transition from the residential setting. No more than 32 units (within a 90 day period) of community support can be provided to children and families who are transitioning to or from Multi-systemic Therapy. Intensive In-Home Services, Day Treatment, Hourly Respite, individual, group or family therapy cannot be billed while an individual is receiving MST. Community Support services may be billed for an individual receiving MST Services for a two (2) week transition period. MST and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two (2) consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility.

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## COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM (MH/SA) (CST)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Community Support Team (CST) services consist of mental health and substance abuse rehabilitation services and supports necessary to assist adults (age 18 and older) in achieving rehabilitative and recovery goals. This is an intensive community rehabilitation service that provides treatment and restorative interventions to: assist individuals to gain access to necessary services; reduce psychiatric and addiction symptoms and develop optimal community living skills. Services offered by the Community Support teams shall be documented in a Person Centered Plan (PCP) and must include: assistance and support for the individuals in crisis situations; service coordination; psycho-education and support for individuals and their families; individual restorative interventions for the development of interpersonal, community coping and independent living skills; development of symptom monitoring and management skills: monitoring medication and self medication.

Individuals will experience decreased crisis episodes, and increased community tenure, time working, in school or with social contacts, and personal satisfaction and independence. Through supports based on the individuals' needs, consumers will reside in independent or semi-independent living arrangements, and be engaged in the recovery process.

The Community Support Team must consult with identified professionals, family members and others, include their input into the service planning process, inform all involved stakeholders, and monitor the status of the recipient in relationship to the treatment goals. The Community Support Team provider assumes the roles of advocate, broker, coordinator, and monitor of the service delivery system on behalf of the recipient.

#### **Provider Requirements**

Community Support services provided by a team must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MHDDSAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrated that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina.

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Community Support Teams must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, jails (for state funds only), homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

Organizations that provide Community Support Team must provide "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to consumers who are receiving this service

## **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC may deliver Community Support Team. A Qualified Professional must be the team supervisor. Supervision is provided according to supervision requirements specified in 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 and according to licensure requirements of the appropriate discipline.

Paraprofessional level-providers who meet the requirements specified for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 may deliver Community Support Team services within the requirements of the staff definition specific in the above role. Supervision of Paraprofessionals is also to be carried out according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104.

Community Support Teams must be comprised of a minimum of three (3) staff persons meeting the requirements above. Each team must have a team leader who must be either a Qualified Professional or Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC. It is recommended that the team have at least a .5 FTE team leader that provides clinical and administrative supervisor of the team and also functions as a practicing clinician on the team

The Community Support Team maintains a consumer-to-practitioner ratio of no more than fifteen (15) consumers per staff person. Staff-to-consumer ratio takes into consideration evening and weekend hours, needs of special populations, and geographical areas to be served.

All staff providing community support team services must have a minimum of one year documented experience with the adult population or completion of a minimum of six hours regarding crisis management and community support skill building activities within the first 90 days of employment.

## **Service Type/Setting**

Community Support Team is a direct and indirect periodic service in which the team provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. Community Support Team services are primarily provided in a range of community settings such as recipient's home, homeless shelters, libraries, etc. Community Support Team also includes telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with FINAL DRAFT

persons who assist the recipient in meeting his/her rehabilitation goals. This service is billable to Medicaid except when provided to a consumer who is an inmate of a public institution or a resident in an IMD.

## **Clinical Requirements**

For registered recipients, a minimum of eight (8) face-to-face contacts must occur within the first month, with 60% of the contacts occurring face-to-face with the individual.

Sixty Per Cent (60%) or more of CST services that are delivered are performed face-to-face with recipients, and Ninety Per Cent (90%) or more of staff time must be spent working outside of the agency's facility, with or on behalf of consumers. For an organization providing this service, these contact benchmarks are measured on an annual basis.

## **Utilization Management**

Referral and Authorization by Local Management Entity is required. The amount, duration and frequency of the service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan and a Qualified Professional or an Associate Professional must complete service orders on the day the services are provided. Initial authorization for services would not exceed a three (3) month period. A maximum of 32 units of CST services can be provided in a 24-hour period. No more than 480 units of services can be provided to an individual in a three (3) month period.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

- A There are two (2) identified needs in the appropriate documented domains, AND
- B There is an Axis I or II diagnosis present, other than a sole diagnosis of Developmental Disability AND/OR
- C Level of Care Criteria, level A/ASAM (American Society for Addiction Medicine AND
- D And four or more of the following conditions:
  - 1. High use of acute psychiatric hospitals or crisis/emergency services including mobile, in-clinic or crisis residential (e.g., two or more admissions per year) or extended hospital stay (30 days within the past year) or psychiatric emergency services.
  - 2. History of inadequate follow-through with elements of a Person Centered Plan related to risk factors (including lack of follow through taking medications, following a crisis plan or maintaining housing).
  - 3. Intermittently medication refractory.

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- 4. Co-diagnosis of substance abuse (ASAM any level of care).
- 5. Legal issues (conditional release for non-violent offense; history of failures to show in court).
- 6. Homeless or at high risk of homelessness due to residential instability.
- 7. Clinical evidence for suicidal gestures and/or ideation in past 3 months.
- 8. Ongoing inappropriate public behavior in the community within the last three months.
- 9. Self-harm or threats of harm to others within last year.
- 10. Evidence of significant complications such as cognitive impairment, behavioral problems, or medical conditions.
- 11. A lower level of care has been tried or considered and found inappropriate at this time.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- B Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) need to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- D Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- E Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 90 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record.

## **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- A Recipient has positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery...
- B Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- C Recipient/family no longer wants Community Support Team services.

\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

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## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note that includes the purpose of contact, describes the provider's interventions; the time spent performing the intervention and the effectiveness of the interventions.

## **Service Exclusions**

An individual can receive Community Support Team services from only one provider at a time.

Community Support Team services can be billed for individuals living in other residential facilities in which they are receiving 'watchful oversight', e.g. supported housing. For persons residing in higher level residential programs (e.g., Group Living Moderate and High), Community Support Team services are limited to 80 units per 30 consecutive days. Community Support Team services may be provided for a maximum of two (2) weeks to individuals receiving ACTT, or structured SA treatment services for transitional purposes only. Community Support Team and residential services can be billed for a maximum of two (2) consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility for the purpose of effective transition.

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# NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MH/DD/SAS SERVICE STANDARDS

# ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT TEAM (ACTT)

# **Service Definition and Required Components**

The Assertive Community Treatment Team is a service provided by an interdisciplinary team that ensures service availability 24hours a day, 7 days per week and is prepared to carry out a full range of treatment functions wherever and whenever needed. A service recipient is referred to the Assertive Community Treatment Team service when it has been determined that his/her needs are so pervasive and/or unpredictable that they can not be met effectively by any other combination of available community services. Typically this service should be targeted to the 10% of MH/DD/SA service recipients who have serious and persistent mental illness or co-occurring disorders, dual and triply diagnosed and the most complex and expensive treatment needs. The service objectives are addressed by activities designed to: promote symptom stability and appropriate use of medication; restore personal, community living and social skills; promote and maintain physical health; establish access to entitlements, housing, work and social opportunities; and promote and maintain the highest possible level of functioning in the community. ACTT Teams should make every effort to meet critical standards contained in the most current edition of the National Program Standards for ACTT Teams as established by the National Alliance for the Mentally III or US Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Mental Health Services.

This service is a team approach designed to address the identified needs of specialized populations and/or the long term support of those with persistent MH/DD/SA issues that require intensive interventions to remain stable in the community. These service recipients would tend to be high cost, receive multiple services, decompensate to the point of requiring hospitalization before seeking treatment, seek treatment only during a crisis, or unable to benefit from traditional forms of clinic based services. This population has access to a variety of interventions twenty four (24) hours, seven days per week by staff that will maintain contact and intervene as one organizational unit.

This team approach is structured face-to-face scheduled therapeutic interventions to provide support and guidance in all areas of functional domains: adaptive, communication, personal care, domestic, psychosocial, problem solving, etc. in preventing, overcoming, or managing the recipient's level of functioning and enhancing his/her ability to remain in the community.

This service includes interventions that address the functional problems associated with the most complex and/or pervasive conditions of the identified population. These interventions are strength based and focused on promoting symptom stability,

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increasing the recipient's ability to cope and relate to others and enhancing the highest level of functioning in the community.

ACTT provides ongoing assertive outreach treatment that is available in order to address the service recipient's needs effectively. Consideration of geographical locale may impact on the effectiveness of this service model. This model is primary a mobile unit, but includes some clinic based services, most often MD visits.

## **Provider Requirements**

Assertive Community Treatment services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health/substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MHDDSAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina.

ACTT services may be provided to an individual by only one organization at a time. This organization is identified in the Person Centered Plan and is responsible for obtaining authorization from the LME for the PCP. ACTT providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

Organizations which provide ACTT services must be capable of providing "first response" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis for consumers who are in crisis.

### **Staffing Requirements**

Assertive Community Treatment services must be provided by a team of individuals. Individuals on this team shall have sufficient individual competence, professional qualifications and experience to provide service coordination; crisis assessment and intervention; symptom assessment and management; individual counseling and medication prescription, administration, psychotherapy; monitoring documentation; substance abuse treatment; work-related services; activities of daily living services; social, interpersonal relationship and leisure-time activity services; support services or direct assistance to ensure that individuals obtain the basic necessities of daily life; and education, support, and consultation to individuals' families and other major supports. Each ACTT team staff member must successfully participate in the Division approved ACTT training. The Division approved training will focus on developing staff's competencies for delivering ACTT services according to the most recent evidenced based practices. Each ACTT team shall have sufficient numbers of staff to provide treatment, rehabilitation, and support services 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

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Each ACTT team shall have a staff-to-individual ratio that does not exceed one full-time equivalent (FTE) staff person for every 10 individuals (not including the psychiatrist and the program assistant ACTT teams **that serve approximately 100 individuals** shall employ a minimum of 10 FTE multidisciplinary clinical staff persons including:

**Team Leader:** A full-time team leader/supervisor that is the clinical and administrative supervisor of the team and who also functions as a practicing clinician on the ACTT team. The team leader at a minimum must have a mater's level Qualified Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104.

**Psychiatrist**: A psychiatrist, who works on a full-time or part-time basis for a minimum of 16 hours per week for every 50 individuals. The psychiatrist provides clinical services to all ACTT individuals; works with the team leader to monitor each individual's clinical status and response to treatment; supervises staff delivery of services; and directs psychopharmacologic and medical services.

**Registered Nurses:** A minimum of two FTE registered nurses. At least one nurse must have a Qualified Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104 or be an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) according to NCGS Chapter 90 Article I, Subchapter 32M . The other nurse must have Associate Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104. By July 1, 2005 it is expected that all team nurses will be have Qualified Professional Status or be an APN.

**Other Mental Health Professionals:** A minimum of 4 FTE Qualified Professional or Associate Professional (in addition to the team leader), with at least one designated for the role of vocational specialist, preferably with a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling. At least one-half of these other mental health professionals shall be master's level.

**Substance Abuse Specialist:** One FTE who has an Qualified Professional status according to 10A NCAC 27.G.0104. and is one of the following: CCS, CCAS, or CSAC.

**Certified Peer Specialist** A minimum of one FTE peer specialist. A peer specialist is an individual who is or has been a recipient of mental health services for severe and persistent mental illness holds this position. Because of life experience with mental illness and mental health services, the peer specialist provides expertise that professional training cannot replicate. Peer specialists are fully integrated team members who provide highly individualized services in the community and promote individual self-determination and decision-making.

Peer specialists also provide essential expertise and consultation to the entire team to promote a culture in which each individual's point of view and preferences are recognized, understood, respected and integrated into treatment, rehabilitation, and community self-help activities. All peer specialists must be certified by the Division of MH/SA/DD by July 1, 2005.

**Remaining Clinical Staff:** The additional clinical staff may be bachelor's level and paraprofessional mental health workers who carry out rehabilitation and support functions. A bachelor's level mental health worker has a bachelor's degree in social work or a behavioral science and work experience with adults with severe and **FINAL DRAFT** 

persistent mental illness. A paraprofessional mental health worker may have a bachelor's degree in a field other than behavioral

sciences or have a high school degree and work experience with adults with severe and persistent mental illness or with individuals with similar human-services needs. These paraprofessionals may have related training (e.g., certified occupational therapy assistant, home health care aide) or work experience (e.g., teaching) and life experience.

**Program/Administrative Assistant:** One FTE program/administrative assistant who is responsible for organizing, coordinating, and monitoring all non-clinical operations of ACTT, including managing medical records; operating and coordinating the management information system; maintaining accounting and budget records for individual and program expenditures; and providing receptionist activities, including triaging calls and coordinating communication between the team and individuals.

Smaller teams **serving no more than 50 individuals** shall employ a minimum of 6 to 8 FTE multidisciplinary clinical staff persons, including one team leader (MHP), one registered nurse, one FTE peer specialist, one FTE program assistant, and 16 hours of psychiatrist time for every 50 individuals on the team. One of the multidisciplinary clinical staff persons should be a CCS or CCAS.

## Service Type/Setting

ACTT is a direct and indirect periodic service where the ACTT staff provides direct intervention and also arranges, coordinates, and monitors services on behalf of the recipient. This service is provided in any location. ACTT services may only be provided to an individual. ACTT services may not be provided in groups.

ACTT services are primarily provided in a range of community settings such as recipient's home, school, homeless shelters, libraries, etc. ACTT may include telephone time with the individual recipient and collateral contact with persons who assist the recipient in meeting his/her rehabilitation goals. ACTT activities include person-centered planning meetings and meetings for treatment/service plan development.

This service is billable to Medicaid.

### **Program Requirements**

The ACTT team shall have the capacity to provide multiple contacts a week with individuals experiencing severe symptoms, trying a new medication, experiencing a health problem or serious life event, trying to go back to school or starting a new job, making changes in living situation or employment or having significant ongoing problems in daily living. These multiple contacts may be as frequent as two to three times per day, seven days per week and depend

on individual need and a mutually agreed upon plan between individuals and program staff. Many, if not all, staff shall share responsibility for addressing the needs of all individuals requiring frequent contact. The ACTT team shall provide a

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mean (i.e., average) of three contacts per week for all individuals. Each team shall set a goal of providing seventy-five (75) percent of service contacts in the community in non office-based or non facility-based settings. Sixty (60) percent or more of staff time must be face-to-face. For a provider organization providing this service, these contact benchmarks are measured on an annual basis.

To ensure appropriate ACTT team development, each new ACTT team is recommended to titrate ACTT intake (e.g., 4-6 individuals per month) to gradually build up capacity to serve no more than 100-120 individuals (with 10-12 staff) and no more than 42-50 individuals (with 6-8 staff) for smaller teams.

The ACTT team shall be available to provide treatment, rehabilitation, and support activities seven days per week. It is recommended that ACTT team schedules should follow the standards established in the National Program Standards for ACTT Teams.

## **Utilization Management**

Utilization review must be conducted every three (3) months and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for ACTT service when:

- A. They have a severe and persistent mental illness listed in the diagnostic nomenclature (currently he Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fourth Edition, or DSM IV, of the American Psychiatric Association) that seriously impair their functioning in community living. Priority is given to people with schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders (e.g., schizoaffective disorder), and bipolar disorder because these illnesses more often cause long-term psychiatric disability. (Individuals with a primary diagnosis of a substance abuse disorder or mental retardation are not the intended recipient group.)
- B. They have a significant functional impairments as demonstrated by at least one of the following conditions:
  - 1. Significant difficulty consistently performing the range of practical daily living tasks required for basic adult functioning in the community (e.g., caring for personal business affairs; obtaining medical, legal, and housing services; recognizing and avoiding common dangers or hazards to self and possessions; meeting nutritional needs; maintaining personal hygiene) or persistent or recurrent difficulty performing daily living tasks except with significant support or assistance from others such as friends, family, or relatives.
  - 2. Significant difficulty maintaining consistent employment at a self-sustaining level or significant difficulty consistently carrying out the homemaker role

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- (e.g., household meal preparation, washing clothes, budgeting, or child-care tasks and responsibilities).
- 3. Significant difficulty maintaining a safe living situation (e.g., repeated evictions or loss of housing).
- C. Have one or more of the following problems, which are indicators of continuous high service needs (i.e., greater than eight hours per month):
  - 1. High use of acute psychiatric hospitals (e.g., two or more admissions per year) or psychiatric emergency services.
  - 2. Intractable (i.e., persistent or very recurrent) severe major symptoms (e.g., affective, psychotic, suicidal).
  - 3. Coexisting substance abuse disorder of significant duration (e.g., greater than 6 months).
  - 4. High risk or recent history of criminal justice involvement (e.g., arrest, incarceration).
  - 5. Significant difficulty meeting basic survival needs, residing in substandard housing, homelessness or imminent risk of becoming homeless.
  - 6. Residing in an inpatient or supervised community residence, but clinically assessed to be able to live in a more independent living situation if intensive services are provided, or requiring a residential or institutional placement if more intensive services are not available.
  - 7. Difficulty effectively utilizing traditional office-based outpatient services.

Priority is given to people with schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders (e.g. schizoaffective disorder), and bipolar disorder. Individuals with other major psychiatric disorders may be eligible when other services have not been effective in meeting their needs.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on attempts to reduce ACTT services in a planful way or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery, and additional goals are indicated.
- B. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C. Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- D. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions or indicating a need for more intensive services.

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E. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

If the recipient is functioning effectively with this service and discharge would otherwise be indicated, ACTT services should be maintained when it can be reasonably anticipated that regression is likely to occur if the service is withdrawn. The decision should be based on any one of the following:

A. Past history of regression in the absence of ACTT is documented in the service record or attempts to titrate ACTT downward have resulted in regression.

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B. In the event there is an epidemiologically sound expectation that symptoms will persist and that ongoing outreach treatment interventions are needed to sustain functional gains, the presence of a DSM IV diagnosis would necessitate a disability management approach.

## Discharge Criteria

- A. Discharges from the ACTT team occur when recipients and program staff mutually agree to the termination of services. This shall occur when recipients:
  - 1. Have successfully reached individually established goals for discharge, and when the recipient and program staff mutually agree to the termination of services.
  - 2. Have successfully demonstrated an ability to function in all major role areas (i.e., work, social, self-care) without ongoing assistance from the program, without significant relapse when services are withdrawn, and when the recipient requests discharge, and the program staff mutually agree to the termination of services.
  - 3. Move outside the geographic area of ACTT's responsibility. In such cases, the ACTT team shall arrange for transfer of mental health service responsibility to an ACTT program or another provider wherever the recipient is moving. The ACTT team shall maintain contact with the recipient until this service transfer is implemented.
  - 4. Decline or refuse services and request discharge, despite the team's best efforts to develop an acceptable treatment plan with the recipient.
- B. Documentation of discharge shall include:
  - 1. The reasons for discharge as stated by both the recipient and the ACTT team.
  - 2. The recipient's biopsychosocial status at discharge.
  - 3. A written final evaluation summary of the recipient's progress toward the goals set forth in the treatment plan.
  - 4. A plan developed in conjunction with the recipient for follow-up treatment after discharge.
  - 5. The signature of the recipient, the recipient's service coordinator, the team leader, and the psychiatrist.

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\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum documentation is a service note on a daily basis that includes the purpose of each contact, describes the provider's interventions, and the effectiveness of the interventions. Services may be billed when provided 30 days prior to discharge when a recipient resides in a general hospital or psychiatric in patient setting and retains Medicaid eligibility.

#### Service Exclusions

ACTT is a comprehensive team intervention and most services are excluded. On an individual basis, a limited amount of services can be provided to ACTT consumers to allow a consumer to transition to and from ACTT and other community services (e.g. Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Community Supports Team & Individual.) The transition plan should be adequately documented in the consumer's Person Centered Plan and record.

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# NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MH/DD/SAS SERVICE STANDARDS

### INPATIENT HOSPITAL PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT

## Service Definition and Required Components

Inpatient Hospital Psychiatric Service is an organized service that provides intensive evaluation and treatment delivered in an acute care inpatient setting by medical and nursing professionals under the supervision of a psychiatrist. This service is designed to provide continuous treatment for individuals with acute psychiatric problems.

### **Provider Requirements**

Inpatient Hospital Psychiatric Service must be delivered in a licensed 24 hour inpatient setting or in State operated facilities. This service may be provided at a psychiatric hospital or on an inpatient unit within a licensed hospital or in State operated psychiatric hospitals. Per 42 CFR Chapter IV 441.151, a psychiatric hospital or an inpatient program in a hospital must be accredited by JCAHO.

## Staffing Requirements

Inpatient Hospital Psychiatric Service are staffed by physicians and psychiatrists, who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conduct assessments within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication administration on an hourly basis. Appropriately licensed and credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services must be under the clinical supervision of a psychiatrist who is available by phone 24 hours a day.

# Service Type/Setting

The service is provided in a licensed 24-hour inpatient setting. This service may be provided at a psychiatric hospital or on an inpatient psychiatric unit within a licensed hospital licensed as inpatient psychiatric hospital beds or in State operated facilities... Per 42 CFR Chapter IV 441.151, a psychiatric hospital or inpatient program must be accredited by JCAHO.

### **Program Requirements**

This service focuses on reducing acute psychiatric symptoms through face-to-face, structured group and individual treatment. This service is designed to offer medical,

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psychiatric and therapeutic interventions including such treatment modalities as medication management, psychotherapy, group therapy, recreational therapy and milieu treatment; medical care and treatment as needed; supportive services including education; room and board. These services are reimbursed at a per diem rate based on occupancy on the inpatient unit during the midnight bed count. Physician and other professional time not included in the daily rate is billed separately. Educational services are not billable to Medicaid, but must be provided according to state and federal educational requirements

## **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to three (3) days in non-state operated facilities..

### Certification of Need Process for persons under age 21.

A certification of need (CON) process is necessary for persons under the age of 21. It must be performed by an independent team that includes a physician who has competence in diagnosis and treatment of mental illness, preferably in child psychiatry; and has knowledge of the individual's situation. For an individual who applies for Medicaid while in the facility/program, the certification (CON) must be performed by the team responsible for the plan of care and cover any period prior to the application date for which the facility is seeking to have Medicaid coverage begin.

### The CON must certify that:

- 1. Ambulatory care resources available within the community are insufficient to meet the treatment needs of the recipients; and
- 2. The individual's condition is such that it requires services on an inpatient basis under the direction of a board-eligible or certified child and adolescent psychiatrist or general psychiatrist with experience in treating children and adolescents; and
- 3. The services can reasonably be expected to improve the recipient's presenting condition or prevent further regression so that the services will no longer be needed.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The medical necessity criteria for admission to a psychiatric hospital or to a psychiatric unit of a general hospital our outlined in 10 NCAC 26B.0112. In general, these criteria require that:

A There is a DSM-IV diagnosis of a psychiatric condition AND

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- B The individual is experiencing at least one of the following:
  - 1. Making direct threats or there is a clear and reasonable inference of serious harm to self where suicidal precautions or observation on a 24-hour basis or intermittent restraints/reclusion are required
  - Actively violent, unpredictable, aggressive, disruptive or uncontrollable behavior which represents potential for serious harm to person or property of others or there is evidence for a clear and reasonable inference of serious harm to others which requires intensive psychiatric nursing interventions on a 24-hour basis
  - Acute onset psychosis or severe thought disorder or clinical deterioration in condition due to chronic psychosis rendering the individual unable to adequately care for own physical needs, representing potential for serious harm to self, requiring intensive psychiatric and nursing interventions on a 24-hour basis.
  - 4. Presence of medication needs, or a medical process or condition which is life-threatening which requires an acute care setting for treatment
  - 5. Requires complex diagnostic assessment or treatment which is not available or is unsafe on an outpatient basis

### AND

- C. As a prerequisite for inpatient hospitalization, all of the following apply:
  - 1. Outpatient services in the community do not meet the treatment needs of the individual.
  - 2. Proper treatment of the individual's psychiatric condition requires services on an inpatient basis under the direction of a physician
  - 3. The services can reasonably be expected to improve the individual's condition or prevent further regression or that services will no longer be needed.

# **Continued Stay Criteria**

The criteria for continued stay in an acute inpatient psychiatric facility are summarized below:

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved or sustained over the time frame outlined in the treatment plan and the consumer continues to be at risk of harming self or others as evidenced by direct threats or clear and reasonable inference of serious harm to self violent, unpredictable or uncontrollable behavior which represents potential for serious harm to the person or property of others; demonstrating inability to adequately care for own physical needs; or requires treatment which is not available or is unsafe on and outpatient **FINAL DRAFT** 

basis. The individual's condition must require psychiatric and nursing interventions on a 24 hour basis.

NC Medicaid criteria for continued acute stay in an inpatient psychiatric facility are outlined in 10 NCAC 26B.0113. These criteria apply to recipients under the age of 21 in a psychiatric hospital or in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital and to individuals ages 21-64 receiving treatment in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital.

Utilization review must be conducted every 3 days for non-state operated facilities and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

## Discharge Criteria

The consumer no longer meets the continued stay criteria

## **Expected Outcomes**

The individual will attain a level of functioning including stabilization of psychiatric symptoms sufficient that it allows for subsequent mental health treatment in a less restrictive setting.

# **Documentation Requirements**

Must meet documentation requirements of the accrediting body as well as Medicaid requirements in the Service Records manual. Minimum standard is a daily full service note for each day of Inpatient Hospital Treatment that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions.

### Service Exclusions/Limitations

This service cannot be billed on the same day as any other MH/SA service.

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### SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

### DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT

See Diagnostic/Assessment (MH/SA) service

### **MOBILE CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

See Mobile Crisis Management (MH/SA) service

### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT – ADULT**

See Community Support (MH/SA) – Adult

### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT - CHILD**

See Community Support (MH/SA) - Child

### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM – ADULT**

See Community Support Team (MH/SA)-Adult

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT PROGRAM

Level II.1 Intensive Outpatient Services ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

### **Medicaid Billable**

# **Service Definition and Required Components**

SA Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP) means structured individual and group addiction activities and services that are provided at an outpatient program designed to assist adult and adolescent consumers to begin recovery and learn skills for recovery maintenance. The program is offered at least 3 hours per day at least three (3) days per week with no more than two consecutive days between offered services, and distinguishes between those individuals needing between no more than 19 hours per week of structured services per week (ASAM Level II.1) and those needing 20 hours or more of structured services per week (ASAM Level II.5) SAIOP services shall include a structured program consisting of, but not limited to, the following services: 1)Individual counseling and support; 2) Group counseling and support; 3) Family counseling, training or support; 4) Regular urine drug screening; 5) Strategies for relapse prevention to include community and social support systems in treatment; 6) Life skills; 7) Relapse prevention; 8) Crisis contingency planning; 9) Disease Management and 10) Treatment support activities that have

been adapted or specifically designed for persons with physical disabilities, or persons with co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance abuse/dependence or mental retardation/developmental disability and substance abuse/dependence. SAIOP can be designed for homogenous groups of recipients e.g., pregnant women, and women and their children; individuals with co-occurring MH/SA disorders; individuals with HIV; or individuals with similar cognitive levels of functioning. Group counseling shall be provided each day SAIOP services are offered. Consumers may be residents of their own home, a substitute home, or a group care setting; however the SAIOP must be provided in a setting separate from the consumer's residence. The program is provided over a period of several weeks or months.

# **Provider Requirements**

SAIOP must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

# Staffing Requirements

Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver SADP. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or a CCAS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional in Substance Abuse status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver SAIOP, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

# Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .3700

### **Program Requirements**

See Service Definition and Required Components
Utilization Management

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The amount, duration, and frequency of SAIOP Service must be included in an individual's authorized Person Centered Plan. Services may not be delivered less frequently than the structured program set forth in the service description above. Initial authorization for services will not exceed a duration of 12 weeks. Under exceptional circumstances, one additional reauthorization up to 2 weeks can be approved.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There is an Axis I substance abuse disorder present;

AND

B Level of Care Criteria, level II.1 NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery, and additional goals are indicated.
- B. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C. Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- D. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions
- E. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

## **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome of SAIOP is abstinence from substances.

# **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of SAIOP that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions.

# **Discharge Criteria**

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Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery.
- 2. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- 3. Recipient no longer wishes to receive SAIOP services.

### **Service Exclusions/Limitations**

SAIOP cannot be billed on the same day as SACOT Program, Detoxification, or Residential Treatment Services (Medical) or Community Support.

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### SA COMPREHENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT PROGRAM

# Level II.5 Partial Hospitalization ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

### **Medicaid Billable**

# **Service Definition and Required Components**

SA Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT) Program means a periodic service that is time limited, multi-faceted approach treatment service for adults who require structure and support to achieve and sustain recovery. SACOT Program is a service emphasizing reduction in use and abuse of substances and/or continued abstinence, the negative consequences of substance abuse, development of social support network and necessary lifestyle changes, educational skills, vocational skills leading to work activity by reducing substance abuse as a barrier to employment. social and interpersonal skills, improved family functioning, the understanding of addictive disease, and the continued commitment to a recovery and maintenance program. These services are provided during day and evening hours to enable individuals to maintain residence in their community, continue to work or go to school, and to be a part of their family life. The following types of services are included in the SACOT Program: 1) Individual counseling and support; 2) Group counseling and support; 3) Family counseling, training or support; 4) Regular urine drug screening; 5) Strategies for relapse prevention to include community and social support systems in treatment; 6) Life skills; 7) Relapse prevention; 8) Crisis contingency planning; 9) Disease Management and 10) Treatment support activities that have been adapted or specifically designed for persons with physical disabilities, or persons with co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance abuse/dependence or mental retardation/developmental disability and substance abuse/dependence. SACOT Programs can be designed for homogenous groups of recipients e.g., individuals being detoxed on an outpatient basis; individuals with chronic relapse issues; pregnant women, and women and their children; individuals with co-occurring MH/SA disorders: individuals with HIV: or individuals with similar cognitive levels of functioning. Consumers may be residents of their own home, a substitute home, or a group care setting; however the SACOT Program must be provided in a setting separate from the consumer's residence.

This service must operate at least 20 hours per week and offer a minimum of 4 hours of scheduled services per day, with availability at least 5 days per week with no more than two consecutive days without services available. Group counseling services must be offered each day the program operates. Services must be available during both day and evening hours. A SACOT Program may have variable lengths of stay and reduce each individual's frequency of attendance as recovery becomes established and the individual can resume more and more usual life obligations. The program conducts random drug screening and uses the results of these tests for marking participants' progress toward goals and for service planning.

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## **Provider Requirements**

SACOT Program must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

## **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver SACOT Program. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCAS or CCS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional or Associate Professional in Substance Abuse status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver SACOT Program, under the supervision of CCAS or CCS.

## Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed in accordance with 10A NCAC 14V .3701- .3703.

### **Program Requirements**

See Service Definition and Required Components

### **Utilization Management**

The amount, duration, and frequency of the services must be included in an individual's authorized Person Centered Plan. Services may not be recommended to occur less frequently than the structured program's requirements set forth in the service description above. Initial authorization of services will not exceed a 45-day period.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of a Substance Abuse disorder diagnosis.

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B Level of Care Criteria Level II.5 NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- 2. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- 3. Recipient is making some progress, but the PCP (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- 4. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- 5. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 45 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

# **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery.
- 2. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- 3. Recipient/family no longer wishes to receive SA COT services.

# **Expected Outcomes**

Abstinence from substances is the expected outcome. For individuals with cooccurring MH/SA disorders, improved functioning is the expected outcome.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of SACOT that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient

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spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions.

## **Service Exclusions/Limitations**

SACOT cannot be billed on the same day as SA Intensive Outpatient Program, Community Support, all Detoxification levels (with the exception of Ambulatory Detoxification) or Residential Treatment Services (Medical and non-Medical).

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### **DETOXIFICATION SERVICES**

### AMBULATORY DETOXIFICATION

Level I-D Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On-Site Monitoring ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

### Medicaid Billable

# **Service Definition and Required Components**

Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On Site Monitoring (Outpatient Detox) is an organized outpatient service delivered by trained clinicians who provide medically supervised evaluation, detoxification and referral services according to a predetermined schedule. Such services are provided in regularly scheduled sessions. The services are designed to treat the patient's level of clinical severity and to achieve safe and comfortable withdrawal from mood-altering drugs (including alcohol) and to effectively facilitate the patient's transition into ongoing treatment and recovery.

# **Provider Requirements**

Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On Site Monitoring must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina.

### **Staffing Requirements**

Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On Site Monitoring are staffed by physicians, who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conduct an assessment within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication. Appropriately licensed and credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders with the services of counselors available as appropriate. Services must be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

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## **Service Type/Setting**

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .3300

### **Entrance Criteria**

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse disorder present AND

B ASAM Level of Care Criteria Level I-D (NC criteria)

# **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to seven days.

## Continued Stay/Discharge Criteria

The patient continues in Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On Site Monitoring until:

- withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently resolved that he or she can participate in self-directed recovery or ongoing treatment without the need for further medical or nursing detoxification monitoring; or
- the signs or symptoms of withdrawal have failed to respond to treatment and have intensified such that transfer to a more intensive level of detoxification service is indicated.

### **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome of this service is the establishment of abstinence sufficient to enable a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

### **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note for each day of Ambulatory Detoxification Without Extended On Site Monitoring that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Detoxification rating scale tables e.g. Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment-Alcohol, Revised (CIWA-Ar) and flow sheets (which include tabulation of vital signs) are used as needed.

## **Service Exclusions**

Cannot be billed the same day as any other service, except for Community Support service, or Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program.

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### SOCIAL SETTING DETOXIFICATION

# Level III.2-D Clinically Managed Residential Detoxification NC Modified ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

### **Not Medicaid Billable**

### **Service Definition and Required Components**

Clinically Managed Residential Detoxification is an organized service that is delivered by appropriately trained staff, who provide 24-hour supervision, observation and support for patients who are intoxicated or experiencing withdrawal symptoms sufficiently severe to require 24-hour structure and support. The service is characterized by its emphasis on peer and social support. Established clinical protocols are followed by staff to identify patients who are in need of medical services beyond the capacity of the facility and to transfer such patients to the appropriate levels of care.

## **Provider Requirements**

Social Setting Detox must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

# **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver Social Setting Detoxification. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is available 24 hours a day by telephone. All clinicians who assess and treat patients are able to obtain and interpret information regarding the needs of the needs of patients including the signs and symptoms of alcohol and other drug intoxication and withdrawal as well as the appropriate treatment and monitoring of those conditions and how to facilitate entry into ongoing care. Back-up physician services are available by telephone 24 hours a day. Services must be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver Social Setting Detoxification, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

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# Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .3200

### **Entrance Criteria**

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse disorder present AND

B ASAM Level of Care Criteria Level III.2-D (NC criteria)

# **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to seven days.

## Continued Stay/Discharge Criteria

The patient continues in Social Setting Detoxification until:

- 1. withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently resolved that he or she can be safely managed at a less intensive level of care; or
- 2. the signs or symptoms of withdrawal have failed to respond to treatment and have intensified such that transfer to a more intensive level of detoxification service is indicated.

### **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome of this service is the establishment of abstinence sufficient to enable a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

# **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note for each day of Social Setting Detox that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Detoxification rating scale tables e.g. Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment-Alcohol, Revised (CIWA-Ar) and flow sheets (which include tabulation of vital signs) are used as needed.

### Service Exclusions

This service cannot be billed on the same day as any other MH/SA service.

### NON-HOSPITAL MEDICAL DETOXIFICATION

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# **Level III.7-D Medically Monitored Inpatient Detoxification** NC Modified ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

### Medicaid Billable

### **Service Definition and Required Components**

Medically Monitored Detoxification is an organized service delivered by medical and nursing professionals, which provides for 24-hour medically supervised evaluation and withdrawal management in a permanent facility affiliated with a hospital or in a freestanding facility of 16 beds or less. Services are delivered under a defined set of physician-approved policies and physician-monitored procedures and clinical protocols.

## **Provider Requirements**

Medically Monitored Detoxification must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

# **Staffing Requirements**

Medically Monitored Detoxification are staffed by physicians, who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conducts an assessment within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication administration on an hourly basis. Appropriately licensed and credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders. Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver a planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Monitored Detoxification. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is available by phone 24 hours a day. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Monitored Detoxification must be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver FINAL DRAFT 61

the planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Monitored Detoxification, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. SA

# Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .3100

### **Entrance Criteria**

- There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse disorder present AND
- В ASAM Level of Care Criteria Level III.7-D (NC criteria)

# **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to seven days.

## Continued Stay/Discharge Criteria

The patient continues in Medically Monitored Detoxification until:

- 1. withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently resolved that he or she can be safely managed at a less intensive level of care; or
- 2. the signs or symptoms of withdrawal have failed to respond to treatment and have intensified such that transfer to a more intensive level of detoxification service is indicated.

## **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome of this service is the establishment of abstinence sufficient to enable a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

### **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of Medically Monitored Detoxification that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Detoxification rating scale tables e.g. Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment-Alcohol, Revised (CIWA-Ar) and flow sheets (which include tabulation of vital signs) are used as needed.

### **Service Exclusions**

This service cannot be billed on the same day as any other MH/SA service.

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# MEDICALLY SUPERVISED OR ADATC DETOXIFICATION/CRISIS STABILIZATION

# LEVEL III.9-D Medically Supervised Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization NC Modified ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

#### Medicaid Billable

### **Service Definition and Required Components**

Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization is an organized service delivered by medical, and nursing professionals, which provides for 24-hour medically supervised evaluation and withdrawal management in a permanent facility with inpatient beds. Services are delivered under a defined set of physician-approved policies and physician-monitored procedures and clinical protocols. Recipients are often in crisis due to co-occurring severe substance-related mental disorders, such as an acutely suicidal patient, or persons with severe mental health problems that co-occur with more stabilized substance dependence who are in need short term intensive evaluation, treatment intervention, or behavioral management to stabilize the acute or crisis situation. The service has restraint and seclusion capabilities. Established clinical protocols are followed by staff to identify patients with severe biomedical conditions who are in need of medical services beyond the capacity of the facility and to transfer such patients to the appropriate level of care.

# **Provider Requirements**

Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

# **Staffing Requirements**

Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization are staffed by physicians and psychiatrists, who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conduct assessments within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication administration on an hourly basis. Appropriately licensed and credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders. Persons who meet the requirements specified **FINAL DRAFT** 

for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver a planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is who is available by phone 24 hours a day. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization must be provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver the planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

## Service Type/Setting

(Licensure definition TBD)

### **Entrance Criteria**

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse disorder present AND

B ASAM Level of Care Criteria Level III.9-D (NC criteria)

### **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to 5 days.

### **Continued Stay/Discharge Criteria**

The patient continues in Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification/Crisis Stabilization until:

- 1. withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently resolved that he or she can be safely managed at a less intensive level of care; or
- 2. the signs or symptoms of withdrawal have failed to respond to treatment and have intensified such that transfer to a more intensive level of detoxification service is indicated; or
- 3. the addition of other clinical services are indicated.

### **Expected Outcomes**

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The expected outcome of this service is the establishment of abstinence sufficient to enable a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of Medically Supervised ADATC Detox/Crisis Stabilization that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Detoxification rating scale tables e.g. Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment-Alcohol, Revised (CIWA-Ar) and flow sheets (which include tabulation of vital signs) are used as needed.

### Service Exclusions

Cannot be billed the same day as any other service, except for Community Support service during transition.

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### NON-MEDICAL COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Level III.5 Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential Treatment NC Modified ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

Medicaid Billable when furnished in a facility which does not exceed 16 beds and is not an Institution for Mental Diseases for Adults. Room and Board is not included.

(Examples:; Residential Recovery Homes (CASAWORKS for Families Residential Programs), Perinatal/Maternal Residential Programs, Child SA Residential (McLeod, Bethesda LINK)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Non-medical Community Residential Treatment is a 24-hour residential recovery program professionally supervised residential facility which provides trained staff who work intensively with adolescents 17 years old or younger (For Medicaid: 20 years old or younger), adults or individuals with substance abuse disorders who provide or have the potential to provide primary care for their children. This is a rehabilitation facility, without twenty-four hour per day medical nursing/monitoring, where a planned program of professionally directed evaluation, care and treatment for the restoration of functioning for persons with an addiction disorder.

These programs shall include, assessment/referral, individual and group therapy, family therapy, recovery skills training, disease management, symptom monitoring, monitoring medications and self management of symptoms, aftercare, follow-up and access to preventive and primary health care. The facility may utilize services from another facility providing treatment, psychiatric, support or medical services. Services shall promote development of a social network supportive of recovery, enhance the understanding of addiction, promote successful involvement in regular productive activity (such as school or work), enhance personal responsibility and promote successful reintegration into community living. Services shall be designed to provide a safe and healthy environment for consumers and their children.

For programs providing services to adolescents: each adolescent shall also receive in accordance with their Person-Centered Plan services that are adapted to the adolescents developmental and cognitive level. In addition, educational services are arranged and are designed to maintain the educational and intellectual developmental of the adolescent.

For programs providing services to individuals with their children in residence and/or pregnant women:

Each adult shall also receive in accordance with their Person-Centered Plan therapeutic parenting skills, basic independent living skills, child supervision,

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one-on-one interventions with the community to develop interpersonal and community coping skills, including adaptation to school and work environments; and therapeutic mentoring. Program staff will arrange, link or integrate multiple services as well as assessment and reassessment of the recipient's need for services. Program staff will inform the recipient about benefits, community resources, and services; assist the recipient in accessing benefits and services; arrange for the recipient to receive benefits and services; and monitor the provision of services. In addition, their children shall receive services in accordance with 10A NCAC 14V Section .4100.

Programs are licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .4100 are 24-hour residential recovery programs who work intensively with individuals with substance abuse disorders who provide for the primary care for their children and/or pregnant women and programs licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .5600 are 24 hour facilities working with adolescents or adults.

### **Provider Requirements**

NMCRT must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

## **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver NMCRT. Programs providing services to adolescents must have experience working with the population. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCAS or CCS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver NMCRT, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. See other staffing requirements specified under .4102.

### Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .4100 for residential recovery programs or .5600 for adolescents or adults. Programs licensed as .5600 must also **FINAL DRAFT** 

be licensed in a facility separate from the residence under .3500 and .4700 in order to provide treatment services.

# **Program Requirements**

See Service Definition and Required Components and 10A NCAC 14V Section .4100 - .4104 for residential recovery programs or .5600 for adolescents or adults.

## **Utilization Management**

Service must be included in the individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial Authorization cannot exceed 90 days.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of a substance abuse disorder

AND

B Level of Care Criteria Level III.5 NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's pre-morbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 90 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

### **Discharge Criteria**

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Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery (and parenting skills, if applicable).
- 2. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- 3. Recipient/family no longer wishes to receive NMCRT services.

## **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome is abstinence from substances and, in Residential Recovery Programs, improved parenting.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of NMCRT that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Residential Recovery Programs for women and children shall also provide documentation of all services provided to the children in the program. Goals for parent-child interaction shall be established and progress towards meeting these goals shall be documented in the parent's service record.

### **Service Exclusions/Limitations**

NMCRT cannot be billed the same day as any other MH/SA services.

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### MEDICALLY MONITORED COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Level III.7 Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient Treatment ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

Medicaid billable when furnished in a facility which does not exceed 16 beds and is not an Institution for Mental Diseases.

### Room and Board is not included.

(Examples McLeod, Swain, Hope Valley, ARCA)

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment is a non-hospital twenty-four hour rehabilitation facility for adults, with twenty-four hour a day medical/nursing monitoring, where a planned program of professionally directed evaluation, care and treatment for the restoration of functioning for persons with alcohol and other drug problems and/or addiction occurs.

# **Provider Requirements**

MMCRT must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

## Staffing Requirements

Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment is staffed by physicians who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conduct assessments within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication administration on an hourly basis. Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver MMCRT. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for

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Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver MMCRT, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

## Service Type/Setting

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .3400.

### **Program Requirements**

See Service Definition and Required Components

# **Utilization Management**

The amount and duration of the service must be included in the individual's authorized Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization of no more than 14 days. In exceptional circumstances an additional 7 days may be authorized following utilization review documented in the Person Centered Plan and service record. An example of such circumstances includes accomplishing an effective transition to another level of care.

### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

- A There is an Axis I diagnosis of a substance abuse disorder AND
- B Level of Care Criteria Level III.7 NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery, and additional goals are indicated.
- Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
   AND

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Utilization review must be conducted every 14 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

## Discharge Criteria

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery.
- 2. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- 3. Recipient no longer wishes to receive MMCRT services.

# **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome is abstinence from substances. Upon successful completion of the treatment plan there will be successful linkage to the community of the recipient's choice for ongoing step down or support services.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of MMCRT that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions.

### **Service Exclusions/Limitations**

Cannot be billed the same day as any other service, except for Community Support service from a provider organization located in the individual's community during the last two weeks of the residential stay for the purpose of achieving an effective transition to the community.

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#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE HALFWAY HOUSE

# Level III.1 Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Treatment ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

## **Not Medicaid Billable**

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Clinically managed low intensity residential services are provided in a 24 hour facility where the primary purpose of these services is the rehabilitation of individuals who have a substance abuse disorder and who require supervision when in the residence. Rehab Services components offered within this level of care can include the following: disease management, vocational, educational, employment training, support services for early recovery, relapse prevention, and linkage with the self help/or faith based community for ongoing community support in the community. The consumers attend work, school, and SA treatment services. 10A NCAC 14V Section .5600 sets forth required service components.

## **Provider Requirements**

Halfway House must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business as a corporate entity in the State of North Carolina.

# **Staffing Requirements**

Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver Halfway House services. The program must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver Halfway House services, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

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## **Service Type/Setting**

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .5600

## **Program Requirements**

See Service Definition and Required Components and licensure requirements

## **Utilization Management**

The amount and duration of this service must be included in an authorized individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization for services will not exceed 180 days.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The recipient is eligible for this service when:

A There is an Axis I substance abuse disorder present;

AND

B Level of Care Criteria, level III.1 OR level III.3 NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions)
  needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the
  recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 90 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

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## **Discharge Criteria**

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. Recipient has achieved positive life outcomes that supports stable and ongoing recovery.
- 2. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted indicating a need for more intensive services.
- 3. Recipient/family no longer wishes to receive Halfway House services.

## **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome is abstinence from substances.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of Halfway House that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions.

## **Service Exclusions/Limitations**

Halfway House may not be billed the same day as any other Residential Treatment or Inpatient Hospital service.

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## **Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF)**

## **Service Definition and Required Components**

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) provides care for children who have mental illness or substance abuse/dependency and who are in need of services in a non-acute inpatient facility. This service may be provided when an individual does not require acute care, but requires supervision and specialized interventions on a 24-hour basis to attain a level of functioning that allows subsequent substance abuse or mental health treatment in a less restrictive setting. Therapeutic interventions address functional deficits associated with the consumer's diagnosis and include psychiatric treatment, and specialized substance abuse and mental health therapeutic care.

This service is available for recipients under 21 years of age or who are in treatment at age 21. Continued treatment may be provided until the 22nd birthday as long as it is medically necessary. Discharge planning starts on the day of admission. It should be noted that adolescents who appropriately require this level of care might have demonstrated unlawful or criminal behaviors. Therefore, this level of care may be court-ordered as an alternative to incarceration. This court order does not automatically certify PRTF admissions. Further, this program will not be used when the primary problems are social or economic (placement) issues alone. Medical necessity criteria must still be met for certification.

## **Provider Requirements**

PRTFs must be accredited through one of the following: Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations; the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, or the Council on Accreditation. In addition hospital licensure or 122c licensure is required. This program must be provided under the direction of a board eligible/certified child psychiatrist or general psychiatrist with demonstrated experience in the treatment of children and adolescents, and the services must be therapeutically appropriate and meet medical necessity criteria as established by the state. PRTFs must be delivered by practitioners employed by a mental health or substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina.

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## **Staffing Requirements**

This program must be provided under the direction of a board eligible/certified child psychiatrist or general psychiatrist with demonstrated experience in the treatment of children and adolescents, and the services must be therapeutically appropriate and meet medical necessity criteria as established by the state.

For programs providing services to children with primary substance abuse/dependency diagnoses: Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver PRTF services. The program must provide clinical supervision by a CCS or CCAS who is on site a minimum of 50% of the hours the service is in operation. Services may also provided by staff who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver PRTF services, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

## Service Type/Setting

This service can be provided in either a hospital-based or a non-hospital setting. Facility licensed as .1500 Intensive Residential Treatment for Children and Adolescents Who Are Emotionally Disturbed Or Who Have A Mental Illness or a licensed hospital.

## **Program Requirements**

See Service Definitions and Required Components

## **Utilization Management**

The prior approval process for PRTF begins when the LME becomes aware that a recipient is in need of services. An assessment is done to determine medical necessity and the appropriate level of care. The services must be included in the individuals Person Centered Plan. Once the level of care is determined, the LME will contact the independent utilization review contractor for Medicaid. Federal regulations require a certification of need (CON) form to be completed prior to admission when the recipient is already Medicaid-eligible or Medicaid is pending. The CON must meet all federal requirements and a copy must be maintained in the recipient's medical record. If application for Medicaid is made after admission, a CON must be done at the time the application is made and the independent utilization reviewer contacted immediately so that review can begin. Authorization for payment will be determined by the latest date of a signature on the CON form. Concurrent review will occur every 30 days.

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#### **Certification of Need Process**

A certification of need (CON) process is necessary and must be performed by an independent team that includes a physician who has competence in diagnosis and treatment of mental illness, preferably in child psychiatry; and has knowledge of the individual's situation. For an individual who applies for Medicaid while in the facility/program, the certification (CON) must be performed by the team responsible for the plan of care and cover any period prior to the application date for which the facility is seeking to have Medicaid coverage begin.

The CON for PRTF services must certify that:

- 1. Ambulatory care resources available within the community are insufficient to meet the treatment needs of the recipients; and
- 2. The individual's condition is such that it requires services on an inpatient basis under the direction of a board-eligible or certified child and adolescent psychiatrist or general psychiatrist with experience in treating children and adolescents; and
- 3. The services can reasonably be expected to improve the recipient's presenting condition or prevent further regression so that the services will no longer be needed. NOTE: CONs cannot be retroactive for PRTF.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

Must meet Level D in the MH/DD/SAS Level of Care Document OR

Α There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse/dependency disorder present AND

ASAM Adolescent Level of Care Criteria Level III.7 Medically Monitored High-Intensity Inpatient Treatment

## AND

The need for this level of treatment arises from a mental health or substance abuse diagnosis (DSM-IV) which requires and can be reasonably expected to respond to therapeutic interventions.

#### AND

The child/adolescent 's condition is not amenable to treatment outside a highly specialized secured therapeutic environment under daily supervision of a treatment team directed by and with 24 hour access to a board eligible/certified psychiatrist or general psychiatrist with experience in treating children and adolescents.

## OR

Less restrictive levels of care (Levels 1-4, or Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment) have been attempted within the last 3 months and have failed or been ineffective with history of poor treatment compliance.

OR

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The child is not at an acute level but is in need of extended diagnostic evaluation to determine appropriate treatment

#### AND

The child/adolescent can reasonably be expected to respond favorably to the specialized SA/MH therapeutic interventions/modalities employed by the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility.

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

1- Spectrum of symptoms leading to admission have not remitted sufficiently to allow discharge to a lower level of care or the individual has manifested new symptoms or maladaptive behaviors which meet initial authorization criteria and the person centered plan has been revised to incorporate new goals

#### And

2- Individual shows continued progress towards goals as reflected in documentation and person centered plan must be adjusted to reflect progress

#### And

3- The child's family, legal guardian and/or home community is actively engaged in treatment and ongoing discharge planning

#### Or

4- Indicated SA/MH therapeutic interventions have not yet been employed **AND** 

Utilization review will be performed by an independent utilization review contractor, prior to admission and at least every 30 days by a telephonic review. All denials will be based on physician review decisions.

#### Service Maintenance Criteria

If the consumer is functioning effectively at this level of treatment and discharge would otherwise be indicated, this level of service should be maintained when it can be reasonably anticipated that regression is likely to occur if the service were to be withdrawn. This decision should be based on at least one of the following:

- 1. There is a past history of regression in the absence of this service.
- 2. There are current indications that the consumer requires this residential service to maintain level of functioning as evidenced by difficulties experienced on therapeutic visits/stays in a non-treatment residential setting or in a lower level of residential treatment.
- 3. In the event there are epidemiologically sound expectations that symptoms will persist and that ongoing treatment interventions are needed to sustain functional gains, the nature of the child's DSM-IV diagnosis necessitates a disability management approach.

## **Discharge Criteria**

Consumer's needs can now be met at a less restrictive level of care.

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- 2- Community placement/supportive services package exist that is able to adequately meet the needs of the recipient
- 3- Treatment goals related to problems leading to admission have been adequately met.
- 4- Legal guardian has withdrawn consent for treatment
- 5- No evidence of progress towards treatment goals and the treatment team has no expectation of progress at this level of care

## **Expected Outcome**

The individual will attain a level of functioning including stabilization of psychiatric symptoms and establishment of abstinence sufficient that it allows for subsequent substance abuse or mental health treatment in a less restrictive setting.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Must meet documentation requirements of the accrediting body as well as Medicaid requirements in the Service Records Manual.

#### Service Exclusions

The service cannot be billed on the same day as any other MH/SA service except for Community Support can be billed for a maximum of two (2) consecutive weeks per each admission or discharge from a residential facility.

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#### INPATIENT HOSPITAL SA TREATMENT

# Level IV Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient Services ASAM Patient Placement Criteria

# Medicaid billable using DRG

(Example ATC, general hospital)

# **Service Definition and Required Components**

Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient Service is an organized service delivered in an acute care inpatient setting by medical and nursing professionals that provides for 24-hour medically directed evaluation, withdrawal management, and intensive inpatient treatment. It is appropriate for patients whose acute biomedical, emotional, behavioral and cognitive problems are so severe that they require primary medical and nursing care.

## **Provider Requirements**

Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a substance abuse provider organization which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement, and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by Local Management Entity or being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina.

# **Staffing Requirements**

Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services are staffed by physicians and psychiatrists, who are available 24 hours a day by telephone and who conduct assessments within 24 hours of admission. A registered nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission and oversee the monitoring of a patient's progress and medication administration on an hourly basis. Appropriately licensed and credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders. Persons who meet the requirements specified for CCS, CCAS, CSAC, and Counselor Interns under Article 5C may deliver a planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services must be under the clinical supervision of a CCS or CCAS who is who is available by phone 24 hours a day. The planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services may also provided by staff who FINAL DRAFT 81

meet the requirements specified for Qualified Substance Abuse Professional or Associate Substance Abuse Professional status according to 10A NCAC, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements for Paraprofessional status according to 10A NCAC 14V may deliver the planned regimen of 24-hour evaluation, care and treatment services for patients engaged in Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services, under the supervision of a CCAS or CCS.

## **Service Type/Setting**

Facility licensed under 10A NCAC 14V Section .6000

## **Utilization Management**

This service must be included in an individual's Person Centered Plan. Initial authorization is limited to seven days.

## **Entrance Criteria**

A There is an Axis I diagnosis of substance abuse disorder present AND

B Level of Care Criteria Level IV NC Modified A/ASAM

## **Continued Stay Criteria**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for relapse based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions)
  needs to be modified so that greater gains, which are consistent with the
  recipient's premorbid level of functioning, are possible or can be achieved.
- Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

AND

Utilization review must be conducted every 7 days and is so documented in the Person Centered Plan and the service record.

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## **Discharge Criteria**

The patient continues in Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Service until withdrawal signs and symptoms are sufficiently resolved that he or she can be safely managed at a less intensive level of care.

## **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcome of this service is the establishment of abstinence sufficient to enable a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

# **Documentation Requirements**

Minimum standard is a daily full service note to each day of Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient that includes the purpose of the day's activities and interventions, the amount of time the recipient spent participating in program activities, and documenting the effectiveness of the interventions. Detoxification rating scale tables and flow sheets (which include tabulation of vital signs) are used as needed.

## Service Exclusions/Limitations

This service cannot be billed on the same day as any other MH/SA service.

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## **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITES SERVICES**

# NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MH/DD/SAS SERVICE STANDARDS

## **Developmental Therapy Service**

# **Service Definition and Required Components:**

Developmental Therapy is a developmental disability service that includes the assessment, treatment and instruction of individuals in the acquisition of activities of daily living skills that a recipient has not gained at the normal developmental stages in his or her life, or is not likely to develop without training or therapy beyond age appropriate learning situations. Developmental Therapy can include training in self-advocacy and rights, the development of positive social behaviors, and the development of parenting skills. When used to develop socialization skills, the outcomes must be based on specific socialization needs; e.g. does not make eye contact when interacting with others. Broad or general goals to learn to socialize are not acceptable.

## Limitations:

Educational skills that are usually taught in primary or secondary school settings; e.g. reading math, writing, etc. are not reimbursable. The service can include some functionally related skills development in areas such as recognizing street signs, making a mark for a signature, or using a calculator to balance a checkbook for adults who are or were not able to acquire these skills in an educational setting.

Vocational services directed toward assessing a recipient's work skills or aptitudes, training in specific job skills directed toward employment, etc. is not reimbursable. The service can provide training in prevocational areas such as staying on task, safety, being on time, etc. These skills can be taught in other functional settings or simulated work settings as long as the primary purpose of the training is not to train the recipient in a specific job skill.

Recreational services related to participation in recreational or leisure activities or attendance at such activities for recreational or leisure purposes are not reimbursable. Developmental Therapy may be used to teach a recipient to access the community, including recreational activities; e.g. learn to ride the bus to a fitness center. It is expected that this type of training is time limited. The service must focus on the primary goals of the recipient. It is not acceptable to fill a need for training in recreational or leisure activities by developing goals not needed by the recipient to cover the recreational/leisure goal.

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## **Provider Requirements:**

Developmental Therapy must be delivered by a developmental disabilities provider organization, which meets standards established by the Division of MH/DD/SAS. These standards set forth the administrative, financial, clinical, quality improvement and information services infrastructure necessary to provide services. Provider organizations must demonstrate that they meet these standards by either being certified by the Local Management Entity or by being accredited by a national accrediting body. The organization must be established as a legally recognized entity in the United States and qualified/registered to do business in the State of North Carolina. Developmental Therapy providers must have the ability to deliver services in various environments, such as homes, schools, jails, homeless shelters, street locations, etc.

## Staffing Requirements:

Persons who meet the requirements specified for Qualified Professional (QP) or Associate Professional (AP) status according to 10A NCAC 27G. 0203 may deliver Developmental Therapy. Supervision is provided according to supervision requirements specified in 10A NCAC 27G. 0203 and .0204 and according to licensure requirements of the appropriate discipline. Paraprofessional level providers who meet the requirements specified for Paraprofessional status may deliver Developmental Therapy within the requirements of the staff definition specific in the above role. When a paraprofessional provides Developmental Therapy services, a QP or AP is responsible for overseeing the development of the recipient's person centered plan. When a paraprofessional provides Developmental Therapy services, they must be under the supervision of a QP or AP. Supervision of paraprofessionals is also to be carried out according to 10A NCAC 27G .0203 and .0204.

## Service Type/Setting:

Developmental Therapy is a direct periodic service that may be provided to an individual or group of individuals. It may take place in a range of settings, such as the individual's home, community, homeless shelter, etc.

## **Clinical Requirements**

For registered recipients, Developmental Therapy is provided according to the needs as identified on the person-centered plan.

## **Utilization Management:**

Utilization review must be conducted every 180 days and is so documented in the person centered plan and service record. Referral and service authorization is the FINAL DRAFT 85

responsibility of the Local Management Entity. For reimbursement, the services must be included in the recipient's person centered plan, and service orders must be completed by a QP or AP prior to or on the day services are to be provided.

## **Entrance Criteria:**

The individual is eligible for this service when:

The person has a condition that is defined as a developmental disability according to GS 122C-3 (12a),

AND

## NCSNAP,

AND

## The recipient is experiencing difficulties in at least one of the following areas:

- 1. Functional impairment,
- 2. Crisis intervention/diversion/aftercare needs, and/or
- 3. At risk of placement outside the natural home setting,

AND

- D. The recipient is experiencing difficulties in at least one of the following areas:
- 1. Is at risk for institutionalization, or hospitalization or is placed outside the natural living environment.
- 2. Is receiving or needs crisis intervention services or intensive in-home services.
- 3. Has unmet identified needs from multiple agencies.
- 4. Needs advocacy and service coordination to direct service provision from multiple agencies.
- 5. DSS has substantiated abuse, neglect, or has established dependency.
- 6. Presenting with intense verbal and limited physical aggression due to symptoms associated with diagnosis, which is sufficient to create functional problems in the home, community, school, job, etc?
- 7. Functional problems, which may result in the recipient's inability to access clinic-based services in a timely or helpful manner.

# **Continued Stay Criteria:**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame outlined in the recipient's service plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for regression based on history or the tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved initial service plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- B. Recipient is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C. Recipient is making some progress, but the service plan (specific interventions) needs to be modified so that greater gains can be achieved.
- D. Recipient is not making progress; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.
- E. Recipient is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

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## Discharge Criteria:

Recipient's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the service plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at this level of care and any of the following apply:

- A. Recipient has achieved goals and is no longer eligible for Developmental Therapy.
- B. Recipient is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted.
- C. Recipient/family no longer wants Developmental Therapy.

\*Note: Any denial, reduction, suspension, or termination of service requires notification to the recipient and/or legal guardian about their appeal rights.

## **Expected Outcomes:**

Developmental Therapy is directed toward the habilitation of recipients with developmental disabilities in the areas of self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, and self-direction, capacity for independent living or economic self-sufficiency.

## **Documentation Requirements:**

Documentation in the consumer's medical record is required as defined in the Service Records Manual APSM 45-2. A full service note is required. The note shall include the consumer's name, record number and following elements: date service provided, location, type of activity, brief description of activity and outcome, duration of service. A signature of each provider that documents is required.

#### Service Exclusions:

N/A

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# NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MH/DD/SAS SERVICE STANDARDS

## Targeted Case Management for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

## **Service Definition and Required Components:**

Case Management is a service that assists individuals in gaining access to needed State Plan services as well as needed medical, social, educational and other services. Case Managers are responsible for ongoing monitoring of the provision of services included in the individual's Person Centered Plan. Case Managers shall initiate and oversee the process of assessment and reassessment of the individual's level of are and the review of Person Centered Plan. Additionally, Case Management, for the purpose of discharge planning, may be provided while the recipient is in a hospital if it does not duplicate discharge planning activities and is provided within 30 days prior to the recipient's discharge from the hospital.

Case Management is locating, obtaining, coordinating, and monitoring social, habilitative, and medical services as well as other services and supports related to maintaining the person's health, safety, and well-being in the community. Primary responsibilities include:

- Obtaining input from the person/providers/significant others about the service delivery process and seeking information in an effort to obtain needed services/supports on behalf of the person;
- Developing the Person-Centered Plan, preparing notices of planning team meetings, facilitating person-centered planning, circle of friends, mini-planning teams, revising the Plan as needed and submitting the Plan for LME authorization.
- Informing significant others about the person's situation and the case manager's
  efforts on behalf of the person with the consent of the person/legally responsible
  person
- Locating and coordinating sources of help so that the individual receives available natural and community supports. Completing application forms to assist in receiving community and other formal service support.
- Facilitating the service delivery process, beginning with intake/initial assessment and including the identification and procurement of services, on-going monitoring of care and services, and the annual re-evaluation of the individual's needs and services.
- Monitoring the individual's situation to assure quality care as well as the continued appropriateness of services.

## **Provider Requirements**

For case management services, the provider may not provide direct services or interventions to the identified consumer.

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## **Staffing Requirements:**

Worker qualifications: The case manager must be a Qualified Professional or Associate Professional in accordance with 10A NCAC 14V.0104 (17)(c).

## Service type/setting

Case management service can be provided in any setting.

## **Program Requirements:**

See Service Definition and Required Components

## **Utilization Management**

The frequency with which case management is provided is determined by the individual's needs and situations and must be provided as specified in the Person Centered Plan. The assumption is that the number of Case Management hours will vary from person to person, with some individuals requiring less and some requiring more time.

#### **Entrance Criteria**

The individual is eligible for this service when determined to be a member of a Developmental Disabilities target population who is not eligible for CAP-MR/DD services.

## **Continued Stay Criteria:**

The desired outcome or level of functioning has not been restored, improved, or sustained over the time frame specified in the individual's person centered plan or the recipient continues to be at risk for regression based on history or tenuous nature of the functional gains or any one of the following apply:

- A. The individual has achieved initial Plan goals and additional goals are indicated.
- B. The individual is making satisfactory progress toward meeting goals.
- C. The individual is making some progress, but specific interventions in the Plan need to be modified so that greater gains can be achieved.
- D. The individual is not making progress; the Plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions
- E. The individual is regressing; the service plan must be modified to identify more effective interventions.

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## **Discharge Criteria**

The individual's level of functioning has improved with respect to the goals outlined in the Plan, inclusive of a transition plan to step down, or no longer benefits, or has the ability to function at the level of care and any of the following apply:

- 1. The individual is not making progress, or is regressing and all realistic treatment options have been exhausted and a more intensive level of care is required.
- 2. The individual/family no longer wants service.

# **Expected Outcomes**

Case management is directed toward the habilitation of recipients with developmental disabilities in the areas of self care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living or economic self-sufficiency.

## **Documentation Requirements**

Notes and logs signed by the case manager documenting the date of case management activity; the time involved in the activity; and a description of the activity are required and must meet the requirements listed in the Division of MH/DD/SA Service Record Manual (APSM 45-2)

#### Service Exclusions

Case management does not include the transporting individuals, purchasing equipment and supplies, and delivering equipment and supplies. (However, case management does include the coordination and arranging of transportation and the coordination and arranging of purchasing equipment and supplies for the individual.)

The agency providing case management may not provide to the individual, services other than case management to that individual

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